

THE
MEMOIRS

OF

Mrs. Sophia Baddeley.

THE

MEMOIR

OF

MR. JOHN B. BAKER

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THE
MEMOIRS
OF
Mrs. Sophia Baddeley,

LATE OF DRURY LANE THEATRE.

BY
Mrs. ELIZABETH STEELE.

IN SIX VOLUMES.

- VOL. V. -

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Mrs. Sophia Boddley



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SURPRIZED as I was at this letter, I took a day or two to weigh the subject in my mind, and wished, before I wrote an answer, to see Lord Melbourne, as I should know then better how to act. As he did not, however, come in two or three days, I wrote her word, that she had ever found me ready to comply with any thing in rea-

son, that would afford her pleasure, or contribute to her happiness; and, as to her present request, I had no objection, as soon as matters could be settled here, which must first be done, and, begged her directions and advice for that purpose; that I had not seen Lord Melbourne; that, Mr. P. was pressing for money; and, that Lord Coleraine still persevered in his pursuit of her; but, not a word did I say of his application at Chelsea, or at Portsmouth. Indeed, his Lordship was truly troublesome. Like Marplot, he never was at rest. He came, and told me, he had been at Tunbridge-wells, a friend of his having said she was there. This intelligence I knew he had from Portsmouth, though I took no notice of it. I told his Lordship,

ship, that it was of no moment to me where he had been, and that I should say no more on the subject. He declared he would find Mrs. Baddeley, if he was obliged to travel to the devil for that purpose. My reply was, "Go where you please, but don't tease and trouble me." He swore he would be even with me before he died. I told him I disregarded his threats, and advised him not to take any unjustifiable steps, for if he did, he would certainly repent it; that, from a man of his rank and title I had reason to expect the behaviour of a gentleman, and was sorry he did not know himself. He now grew outrageous, d—m'd his rank and title, said, neither these nor all the world, were any objects to him, nor did he

he care what befell him; that, he did not value Mrs. Baddeley so much as I might suppose; but he wished to see her for reasons he best knew, and was determined to find her, if she was living. Tired with his conversation, I went upstairs and left him..

Three weeks past, and no sight of Lord Melbourne. He was not come to town; but, I received plenty of letters from Ireland, and one in answer to my last, saying, I had no objections to come to her, if she enabled me to act right in London. In this letter, she enclosed the following to Lord Melbourne, which I was to convey to him, and let her know the result.

“ My

" My dear Lord,

" I am hurt to be under the ne-
" cessity of laying before your Lord-
" ship, the state of my affairs; yet, it
" is now unavoidable. Mr. P. is become
" tiresome for want of money, having
" paid large sums on my account, and
" I cannot bear to be so urged as I am
" by him. In consequence of which,
" I shall remain out of town, until I
" hear from you, or that you have done,
" as far as you think proper, to dis-
" charge what I owe. You may ar-
" range this matter with Mrs. Steele,
" who can act with Mr. P. as well as
" myself. Your compliance with this,
" will oblige,

" Your's, ever in affection,

Oxfordshire.
Thursday morning.

" Sophia Baddeley."

I was

I was pleased at the receipt of this letter, as I knew it would answer two purposes, one with my Lord, and the other to shew Mr. P. who was now impatient; as it would convince him of her wish to pay him, and her endeavours to that end. I accordingly sent for him, and shewed him the letter. He seemed pleased with it, and said, "I find then, she is at your house in Oxfordshire." "Had you any letters with it?" I told him not, that Mrs. Baddeley hated writing, and that she had sent it by the maid. This satisfied him for the present. He expressed a wish that Lord Coleraine could be prevailed on to advance some money; but, as I told him, Mrs. Baddeley did not wish to be under any obligations to him, and I could not venture

venture without her permission, to take even ten thousand pounds, if it was offered; he begged pardon for hinting it, only as he thought he might make her an offer, in this mad fit of love, it was a justice I owed myself to accept it, in order to discharge Mrs. Baddeley's debt to me. I replied, "That sooner than
 "betray any confidence reposed in me,
 "I would lose every shilling. I do
 "expect a pistol some day from this
 "mad-man, Lord Coleraine and he
 "may fire it, and put an end to my
 "existence; but he shall never know
 "from me where she is." "What,"
 said Mr. P. "not for a thousand
 "pounds?" "No, Sir, nor for ten
 "thousand," returned I, warmly, "nor
 "to save my life, if my life was at
 "stake."

“ stake.” “ Tell *me*,” said he, “ and
“ I will take the thousand pounds for
“ you.” “ No, Sir,” said I, “ not
“ now I know your mind.” “ Is she in
Oxfordshire?” asked he. “ Ask me no
“ more, Sir,” replied I, “ for I will
“ not inform you.” “ Well,” said
Mr. P. “ you are much to blame.”
I begged his pardon, said, I did not see
the matter in the same light with him;
that, whilst I thought I was acting right
by my friend, I was enjoying a serenity
of mind; and, I would do nothing to
discompose it. He still went on.—
“ Think, Mrs. Steele, what a thousand
“ pounds is, and think how idle you
“ are in such resolves. To be plain
“ with you, I have seen his Lordship
“ this day; and, he has promised me
“ he

" he will give it you: and, after all,
 " Mrs. Baddeley need not see him, she
 " can easily be denied; and, if she *does*
 " see him, what harm can arise between
 " two, who have known each other
 " so long. Don't be so obstinate—
 " let me beg it as a favour." I told
 him, I should be happy to oblige him
 in any thing reasonable, but could not
 in his present request, and nothing
 should urge me. When he found me
 resolute, he dropped the subject, saying,
 I was my own enemy, and that he would
 go to him, for that he was now waiting
 for him. I was not well pleased at
 Mr. P's. interference, and told him, as
 he knew my mind fully on this subject,
 if he ever asked me again to tell him
 where she was, I would not see him
 Vol. V. B afterwards.

afterwards. He assured me, upon his honour, he would never trouble me again upon the subject; begged my pardon for saying so much as he had done, and politely took his leave.

The post-man brought me a letter from a friend at Salisbury, and wished to see me; it was to tell me, that a gentleman had been with him, and offered him a guinea, if he would bring him every letter addressed to me, through the post; that he might only see the hand-writing of the direction, and the post-mark; which he refused. I gave the man half a crown for his honesty, and told him he had my full consent to take that letter to him, and see how far his curiosity would carry him; but, not
to

to suffer him to open it; and, that he might take the guinea for himself, but that he must not say I knew of it; and, when he had so done, would have him come and tell me. He did, and this gentleman was Lord Coleraine; and, I believe no man but Lord Coleraine, would have had such a thought. The post-man got the guinea. His Lordship said, that was not the hand he wished to see, but he took down the mark of *Salisbury*, and returned him the letter, with a promise of a guinea for every letter he should so bring. This curiosity cost Lord Coleraine a journey, (and this I foresaw) for he set off the next day for *Salisbury*, and enquired at all the different inns. On his return, he told this to Mr. P. from whom I

afterwards had it. I saw the propriety of not having my letters directed home. I *do* think I was myself watched; as I never went out but I had a follower, except to the post-office; which I took care to prevent, by taking water at Whitehall, when I could see if any boat was after me. Thus did I escape any one's knowing when I carried my letters, and as none at the General Post-office knew me; and they were not addressed to me in my own name, there was no danger of their stopping, or examining, any letters of mine, had they been so disposed. Lord Coleraine made no secret of his pursuits, for he told all his friends, and all Mrs. Baddeley's, that she was gone off, and was not to be found. This was but a nine days wonder.

der. Some came to enquire of me what grounds Lord Coleraine had for his report; but, as I refused to answer any thing, where his Lordship was concerned, I was not importuned. I informed her friends, she was well, and would be at home shortly, and happy to see them; but, that she did not chuse to say where she was, that Lord Coleraine might not be troublesome to her. This was always a cause of laughter, that poor Gaby, should be so thrown out in his pursuit..

The post now brought me a letter from Mrs. Baddeley, in answer to mine; wherein I acquainted her with the pains Lord Coleraine had taken to find her out, and the offers he made me, to

say where she was. She thanked me for my conduct, said, neither Gaby nor his title was of any moment to her now; that she had suffered so much, on his account, as not to wish to see him more, and hoped his being kept in the dark would be a sufficient mortification for his cruel treatment: that she was then happy, and would if possible, keep herself so; and, that she despised him as much at that time, as ever she loved him.

Lord Coleraine kept up a correspondence with my friend, that lived at Portsmouth, who began to be uneasy about his wife, having written to her, and received no answer. The letter he wrote to her, I answered, and told him, that



that Mrs. Baddeley, was so closely pursued by Lord Coleraine, that she thought proper to go a little way out of town, to avoid him, and had prevailed on his wife to accompany her; that she would be back in a few days, when I would deliver her his letter: that, in her absence, I looked after his house and servants, and that if he was in want of any cash, I would remit him what he had occasion for. He wrote back to me, blamed his wife for leaving his house, without his knowledge and peremptorily insisted on my saying where she was, unless she returned, in two days, from the date of his letter. This put me to my wit's end, to know what answer to give him. In the interim, came Lord Melbourne, enquiring for his
dear

dear love, and on my saying, she was out of town, desired I would go and fetch her, for he must see her immediately. I told him, she was a long way off. "Where?" asked he. "At Scarborough," said I. "And who is it with her?" said his Lordship. I told him, a female relation of mine, my daughter, her maid, and a man. He looked angry and disappointed, and enquired the reason of her going. I told his Lordship, that it was to avoid Lord Coleraine, who was in pursuit of her, swearing like a mad-man, that she should live with him, and him only; "and if your Lordship knew," continued I, "how much he infested this house, you would pity me, and say, she had acted properly." He asked me, "why

" I did

“ I did not keep the door shut, and
 “ have her denied ?” “ Denied,” cried
 I, “ my Lord, a denial was to little pur-
 “ pose ; he would watch at the door like
 “ a dog, and whenever it was opened,
 “ would slip in, and go up-stairs. He
 “ offered me a thousand pounds, to say
 “ where she was, and I was fearful, he
 “ would bribe my servants, to let him
 “ in at improper times.” Then, why did
 I let her go without me ? he said. I told
 his Lordship, that owing to his stay-
 ing in the country, longer than was ex-
 pected, and not having given her any
 money, Mr. P. was very pressing for
 some, and his frequent visits, on that
 score, made Mrs. Baddeley unhappy ;
 and having some fears on the subject,
 this together, with a wish to get out of
 Lord

Lord Coleraine's way, induced her to leave town, and to keep things quiet at home, was my reason for not going with her. He enquired how much money Mr. P. wanted, "I replied," "What your Lordship can spare." He said, he had no money with him, but would consider of it, and see me again, in a day or two. I took this opportunity to give him Mrs. Baddeley's letter. He read it, put it in his pocket, and said, she was in Oxfordshire. "Yes, my Lord," returned I, "when that letter was written, she had been there a fortnight; but, Lord Coleraine, found her out, and went after her; and, this induced her, to retire further off." "Well," replied his Lordship, "send for her home; this letter is
" for



" for money, and money she shall have.
 " Sure she must be a good deal in debt,
 " to go away on that account!" I
 said, " she was, and that his Lord-
 " ship's bounty to her, had led her into
 " it; whereas, his having withdrawn
 " his hand of late, she was scarce able
 " to support the expence of house-keep-
 " ing, independent of her dress, and
 " other things." " Well," said he
 again, " send for her home and, en-
 " quire, what is the least sum Mr. P.
 " can shift with. I will see, what I can
 " do to extricate her." I told him I
 would, and we parted.

As soon as he was gone, I sent for
 Mr. P. and talked with him on the sub-
 ject; he informed me, he could not do
 with

with less than one thousand five hundred pounds; but if Lord Melbourne thought that more than he could spare, he desired me to say, he would make shift with one thousand pounds; but that was the least, and that he must have more in a little time, for he was very short of cash. I flattered myself now that matters would be made easy by Lord Melbourne; for, though I had no expectation that he would discharge the whole; yet, as Mr. P. had undertaken to settle all she owed, and would be satisfied with a thousand pounds, I trusted all would be well, on this account. But the misfortune was, that though Lord Melbourne came and though I told him what Mr. P. had said, he did not keep his word. His

Lordship's

Lordship's answer was, that Mr. P. must wait *his* time; that the town was full of Mrs. Baddeley's elopement; that different conjectures were passed, and that Lord Coleraine, from what I told him, might spread those reports he heard. I told his Lordship, that I was sorry, I had said any thing to Mr. P. on the subject; for, that now he would be more out of humour. Lord Melbourne said, he did not regard his humour, that he must wait, and should wait. I then hinted the expence of Mrs. Baddeley's journeys, and the time she was absent from home; but, not a guinea did he offer me; said he, however, in a little time, he would do every thing she might wish; and, he was sorry, it did not suit him at present. To keep Mr. P. quiet, how-

ever, I borrowed three hundred pounds, and this, with the two hundred I had, made five hundred pounds. I then sent for him, told him Lord Melbourne was at present so circumstanced, that he could not advance, Mrs. Baddeley any money; but, that having five hundred pounds of my own, if that would assist him, it was at his service; and, that I would try, and do better for him soon. He seemed well pleased with this; but said, that Lord Melbourne did not behave well; and, if he was Mrs. Baddeley, he would see him at the devil, before he would return to him, unless he first paid every debt she owed; that, since I had undertaken her affairs, his Lordship had acted d—n'd shabbily; and that if I would take his advice, it would
be,



be, to persuade her to stay where she was; which he should apprehend would mortify him, and bring him to a compliance. "The words of these Lords," continued he, "are worth nothing; and, I am of opinion, that whatever he does, he will do with a meanness, you little expect. I am quite hurt, to take this money of you, knowing the good disposition, with which you offer it; but, my want of cash is such, that I must in this instance, run counter to my feelings and my natural temper." I then asked him if I should write to Mrs. Baddeley, and advise her, not to come to town for some days? He replied, "Do; and should you be in want of money, send to me, and you shall have it, or any thing

“ else in my power to accommodate
“ you with; for I shall never forget this
“ civility of your’s.—As to his Lord-
“ ship, he would not care if I was in a
“ jail.” I did not tell him how indif-
ferent Lord Melbourne had expressed
himself concerning him, for he was an-
gry enough without it. He took his
leave, urging me to write to her, and
if possible, prevail with her to stay some
little time where she was.

I now received a letter from my
friend’s husband, begging, by the re-
turn of post, to know where his wife
was, and where he might find her, for
see her he must; as, Lord Coleraine
had made him very uneasy. I was
much at a loss how to act, or what to
say;



say; I had told a good many untruths already, and I found I should be obliged to tell many more. Thus does good nature and a friendly disposition draw a person into a variety of disagreeable situations; but, I had promised Mrs. Baddeley I would not say where she was, and I was determined to keep my word with her, at the expence of every thing. Had I written word to Portsmouth, saying where she was, Lord Coleraine would soon have known it; and had I refused to send a proper answer, or sent an evasive one, his resentment might have carried him to improper lengths; as a foreigner, he might have left his wife, and returned to his own country. I, therefore, suffered one post to slip, and then wrote

him word, that Mrs. Baddeley and his wife were at Brighthelmstone, not supposing he would go there. On the receipt of my letter, however, he set off for that place, where he sent for Lord Coleraine; but, not finding them there, they agreed to give each other the earliest intelligence, in case either of them found out where they were. This I was afterwards informed of. My friend's husband went off post to Margate, and Lord Coleraine to Weymouth, in pursuit of them; the ladies having once said they would go shortly to one of those places. On this gentleman's return to London, he came to me in a most violent rage, and swore, he would larn his wife *description*; (he meant *scripture*;) and, would beat her, and make her

her obedient to his will. I laughed within my teeth exceedingly; and, not making any reply, he vowed with many oaths, that if I did not immediately tell him where his wife was, he would blow my brains out, for he had come prepared, and had pistols in his pocket. "Come then," said I, "pull out your pistols; give me one of them, and let me have a fair chance for my life, and I will forget my sex, and fire with you, as long as I can keep my feet, and you are able to load them." When he found me thus disposed, he talked no more of his pistols, nor did he take them from his pocket. I told him, that I despised his threats; that, I knew, not where they were, nor should I know till after the receipt of another letter.

letter. I was not easy, however, about the pistols, and wished to have hold of one in my own defence. I kept up my spirit; and, observing vengeance in his countenance, I drew near the poker, and the bell, which were the only instruments within my reach. I assured him, that his wife was gone only to accompany Mrs. Baddeley, not in any clandestine way, as he supposed; but, to keep up her spirits, and that he would be put to no expence for her journey. "Spence!" exclaimed he with equal rage, "Vat is dat? D—m the spence!" He wanted his wife.—I asked him, if he had been home? He said, "No, I can no look at my ouse, ven my vife is not dare." I was glad of this, as he did not know how long she had been



been absent. I begged to see his pistols; he took out one; I admired it; asked if it was mounted with silver? He replied, "Yes." I begged to look at it, saying, it was the handsomest I had ever seen. He put it into my hands, to look at it, but said, "take care, for it was scharged." I took it, seized him by the collar, presented it at him, and declared, "by the G—d that made me, stamping my foot on the ground, as you have put me in fear of my life, if you do not immediately give me the other pistol, you shall have the contents of this through your head." He trembled like a mad-man, in presence of one who raves like himself, as all violent and passionate men do, when they are overpowered; he said he had no other,
and

and tried to take the pistol from me. "Turn out your pockets," said I. He turned them out, and finding he had no other, I threw the one I had, through the glass, out of the window into the street; and it went off as it fell, but no accident happened. I looked out, and saw it taken up by a chairman, who ran off with it. He looked at me with a wild astonishment, and his tongue seemed wrested in it's utterance; for, he stood motionless, and silent as a statue. I bad him beware how he took such liberties with me in future; and, if he was at all troublesome in this affair, I would prosecute him for threatening my life; that, if his *wife* had offended him, I had not, nor did I see the *vast* impropriety of her going a little journey with a female friend,

friend, during his absence from home, when I had undertaken the care of his house. He then begged my pardon, said his mind was hurt, as he had a thousand different thoughts in his head; that his wife was young, and might be led into things he should dislike, and she might repent of; that, he had reason to suppose all was not well; that there was some hidden mystery at the bottom, and a great deal to the like effect. As I found he would not return to Portsmouth, till he had seen his wife, I knew not what to do. I thought, if I could get rid of him for a couple of days, in that time I might contrive matters; with this view, I told him they might be at Tunbridge, for I knew Mrs. Baddeley wished to go there some little time

time since. At this, he said he would set off for that place in the morning, and if he did not find her there, he would advertize her. When he was gone, I sent for Mr. P. and told him, I had a confidence to repose in him, which, as a friend and a gentleman, he must swear he would not betray; and, at the same time, said, he must promise me not to be offended at a little deception, I had been under the necessity of carrying on. He promised me on his soul and honour he would not, but would keep my secret faithfully. I then told him of Mrs. Baddeley's being in Ireland, and the whole of what had passed, except her declaration to continue there. To this he was very attentive, and said, he was glad that she

was

was so far out of the way of Lord Coleraine; for, he was convinced he could not have a good heart, or love her, or he would pay her debts. I related also to him what had passed between me and my friend's husband; he smiled, and said he was a desperate man; but, that I had acted with a noble and a becoming spirit. He advised me to go to Ireland and fetch Mrs. Baddeley, and take this gentleman with me; "For I apprehend," said he, "he will never be easy till he gets his wife;" and, he promised me, that he would take care of things in my absence, and would accommodate me with any money I might want for the journey; and wished me to lose no time, but to set off on his return from Tunbridge, and travel night

and day, till I got there. I told him, I had about sixty pounds, which I thought would be sufficient. "Far from it;" replied he, "it will be improper to let this mad-man pay any thing, lest he should upbraid his wife with the expence: to enable you, therefore, to do the thing handsomely, I will let you have a hundred pounds. I dread," continued he, "his going with you; but, as you are a woman of spirit, there is less fear: take my advice, and put a pair of pistols in your pocket. As soon as he returns from Tunbridge send for me, and I will appear to drop in as by accident, and see how matters go; but, keep a close mouth, and by no means let him know where you are going, V "left

“ left it should get abroad, and Lord
 “ Coleraine should hear of it; for, as
 “ they have promised to acquaint each
 “ other, what you tell him, may reach
 “ his Lordship.” I thanked him for
 his advice, and his readiness to assist
 me, and he left me with saying, he
 would take care of every thing in my
 absence, and hoped, that if I found it
 necessary to stay a few days longer in
 Ireland than I proposed, I would not
 mind it, but write to him, and he would
 act in every respect as I wished him.
 “ Perhaps, Colonel Lutterell,” continu-
 ed he, “ may advance her some money;
 “ if he does, and you are absent a
 “ month, I shall not think the time
 “ long.” I told him, that if Colonel Lut-
 terell did give Mrs. Baddeley any money,

he should have it. It was settled, that I should direct to him at his coffee-house, that he might not be supposed to be in the plot.—“ I think, however, “ it would be prudent,” added he, “ to “ see Lord Melbourne before you go; “ though, upon second thoughts, it “ will be better not; as it will keep his “ Lordship in suspense, and may be “ of use in the end; if not, he will “ be only made, what I trust he is already.—I would have you get all “ things ready, that you may have nothing to do when this mad Dane “ comes back, but to set off; and, that “ you may not be traced out of town, “ I will lend you my post-chaise and “ horses, for the first stage, and will “ ride

“ ride with you, as far as St. Alban’s,
“ and see you are not watched.”

I now prepared for my journey, and the next morning but one, came back my Danish friend, from Tunbridge, more full of trouble about his wife than before; he, told me, he had not met with her; but, that he had obtained intelligence of two ladies, answering their description, who had left Tunbridge, for Dover, on their way to France; and that he was distracted, and ruined, and would hang himself. I soothed him, and begged him not to be so unhappy about his wife, for that he would soon hear of her. He then stamped, and swore, and said, he would murder both her and Mrs. Baddeley, as soon as he

could get sight of them. "Hold," said I, "and hear reason, and you may still be happy. For yesterday, came a gentleman to fetch me to them." "Vere, how, and in vat place?" he cried. "Be patient," said I, "and we will go together." "Is it von mile or ten?" said he. "Never mind," replied I, "the distance; it is but a few hours ride, and the journey will be pleasant." I sent for Mr. P. but did not leave this gentleman to himself a minute, lest he should send to Lord Coleraine. I wrote to Lord Melbourne, said, I was going to fetch Mrs. Baddeley, who had sent for me, and was not well. Mr. P. came, and I told him before this gentleman, that I was glad he dropped in, as I was going out of town, for a day,

a day or two, thinking the air might be of service to me, and that I intended to take this gentleman with me, who, was a particular friend. Mr. P. asked, how far I was going; I said, about twenty miles; he then begged he might be of the party, and that his post-chaise and four should be at my service. The Danish gentleman, seemed pleased with this, and said, "Oh! How vill my vife zoon stare to see me!" Yes, thought I, she will *stare* indeed, but not so *soon* as you suppose; let me, however, get you out of London, and then I shall fear for nothing. Mr. P. went to order his carriage, and I kept my gentleman in talk, till we heard it at the door; he had ordered it to be ready, when he left home. He put the hundred

dred pounds into my hand, and we set off for Ireland; my servants, however, did not know, but that I was going to my house in Oxfordshire. When we reached Saint Alban's and alighted at the inn, my companion in the chaise, (for Mr. P. rode on horse-back,) jumped out first, forgetting his usual politeness, and left me to get out how I could. He ran into the house, in hopes of seeing his wife; but, I soon undeceived him, by saying, she was not there, and that we had further to go, before he could see her. "If this be the case," said Mr. P. "I must take my leave of you, and let you pursue your journey by yourselves; for, I have business in town and must return." Of course he left us. My companion said, he
was

was much disappointed, for he hoped to see the ladies. "So you will," replied I, "if you travel on with me." After a little refreshment, a post-chaise and four was ordered, and we went on for Coventry; but I only named the next stage. When we came to that place, he asked if they were there. I told him not, and that we must travel all night, and desired he would not leave me. Mr. P. before he left me, put a pocket pistol into my hand, which he said was lock'd, and bid me take an opportunity, to shew it to my companion, as it might be a means of keeping him in temper. When we got into the chaise, I took out my pistol, and said, I hoped we should not be stopped on the road, for that I had resolution enough,

enough not to be robbed; and that the first fellow, that presumed to interrupt our journey, should feel the force of it. The sight of the pistol kept him quiet. He said, I was fitter for a man, than a woman; talked all night of his wife, and hoped day-light would give him a sight of her. He was very inquisitive about the place, I was carrying him to; but I never resolved him, constantly telling him, that he would soon see her. Thus was his expectation kept alive, and he thought every village and every town would be the end of his journey. We travelled all night, and the morning brought us to Coventry. When I told him, we had further to go still, he began to rave and storm; said, he would go no further, that I was going

ing to carry him to *de devil*; that he would go to *de Commissaire*, meaning a magistrate, and tell him how I used him. I told him if he made much more noise, I would swear he was mad, and have a strait-jacket put on him; but, that if he behaved quietly, I would soon bring him where his wife was. Though I felt, in some measure, for his situation, and pitied him; yet, as he had put me in fear of my life, I indulged the pleasing thought of retaliation, and was not a little diverted, at finding my fiery spark so much under my command. I had still my apprehensions, that if I told him where I was going, he would some way contrive to let Lord Coleraine know it; and therefore, was determined to keep up my spirits, and brave it out; knowing
that

that I could have the assistance of the post-boys, if I stood in need of them. We had four horses, all the way to Chester, and travelled night and day till we got there. When we reached Chester, he cried out, "Vat place is dis?" "Are you going to take me to de East-Indies, over land?" Vor my part, I know noting of England, and you may take me to a place from whence I cannot return." I replied, wherever he was going, I would go with him, and he need not fear. "Vear!" exclaimed he, "I am now past all veare. Go where you vill, I vill go vid you." At Chester they advised me, if I wished for expedition, to take six horses and go over the mountains. As we rose the hills, he swore I was carrying

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ing him to Italy, and that we were crossing the Alps. I told him, we were in Wales. "Vales," said he, "vat vor a place is dat? Is dis not England?" I told him not, and asked him if he had never heard of the Welch? "Velch," said he, "Vat has my vife to do vid de Velch peple?" I told him that her father, mother, and all her friends were welch. "So den she is vid her velch friends; d—mn her velch friends, that could get her to come so long a vay; vor my part, I am tired, and hope our journey vill be soon over, as I shall go mad; vor now I am out of England, and do not know vere de mountains vill carry me." To have six horses to draw us over them, was to him surprizing. When we began to rise

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the mountain, called Penmanmawr, he said, we should not get over that, if we had six horses more, and if they pulled to the day of resurrection. He advised getting out to walk, which I foolishly acquiesced in; for, on going over the side of this mountain, where part of the wall was fallen down, and the carriage being at some distance behind, he laid hold of my arm, and swore he would throw me down that precipice into the sea, if I did not tell him how much further we had to go. I said, "Not far," but, this did not satisfy him; he still held me, and made use of many bitter oaths, which alarmed me; and seeing my danger, (for the sea was just under us, and some hundreds of yards to the bottom,) I got my other hand into my pocket,

pocket, took out my pistol, and clapped it to his breast, and bad him let go his hold, or he was a dead man. He quitted, and I ran back to the carriage, and he after me; saying, "Do not run away from me; vorgive me, vor I am a distracted man, and so tired, that I could lay down and die." The carriage soon met us, and I told him, I would quit it no more, that he might have no further opportunity of treating me ill. We got at last to Holy-head, where I hired a vessel to ourselves, the packet not sailing for two days. At the sight of the sea, he asked me if I meant to transport him; I told him I did, for that his wife was in Ireland, and we should soon be there, for she was at Colonel Lutterell's. He never was more

astonished in his life, said it was well I did not tell him before, as he should have done me some mischief. I now began to reason with him, and advised him not to be displeased with his wife, for Mrs. Baddeley perswaded her to go, saying she should be back in fourteen days; that they did not know of our coming, as no post could travel so fast as we had. When at Holy-head, a blind man, with a harp, played us a tune, which he said, a lady from London had taught him; this was Mrs. Baddeley, namely, *Where does my lover bide, &c.* I was so delighted with it, that I sung it, and the man played it sweetly. But this rash and cruel Dane took the man's harp from him, destroyed the strings, then jumped upon the body of it, and broke it all to pieces.

pieces. I was angry with him, for so doing, and the poor man cried bitterly. I enquired of the harper the value of his instrument, and told him I would pay for it. "Pay de devil;" cried my relentless fellow-traveller. "The scoundrel's musick was my wife's tune, and he played it to insult me." As I could not persuade him to the contrary, I contented myself with paying the poor harper for his instrument; and, giving him a trifle over, he was happy. Just before we embarked, a pretty genteel lady, apparently big with child, addressed me, begged my pardon for the liberty she took, but as she was going to Ireland, her time of reckoning was out, and she did not know how soon she might be taken in labour, requested a

passage with me in my vessel. I consented chearfully to this, and took some comfortable things with me, in case such an accident should happen. This young woman was a Millener, in Parliament-street, Dublin. We had a very good passage, were over in six hours and a half, but she was very sick, and though I was not much better myself, I bestowed every attention on her in my power. When we went on shore, this young woman was instantly surrounded, and hustled, as I thought, by near fifty ill-looking fellows. I flew to her assistance; but, my fellow-traveller would have persuaded me to leave her to herself, and go in search of his wife and Mrs. Baddeley. As I could not surmise the cause of this treatment, I determined

I would

I would not quit her, till I saw her out of trouble. I begged to know what she had done, or what crime she had committed. The Irishmen said, I should presently see what they would be at. She was conducted to the Custom-house, and there charged with having a great deal of run lace about her. She declared she had not, but was not believed. I then stepped forward, represented her situation, and insisted upon it, that she should not be so frightened, as her life might be in danger. She fainted away, and I grew angry, and said, though I was in a strange country, and unacquainted with the laws, yet, in the present state of things, humanity ought to be shewn, and I would defend her at the risk of my life. "O," said the fellows,

lows, "we will *deliver* you presently;
"let us strip her first." "Do," said I,
"at your peril. I am no smuggler,
"but a lady on a visit to Colonel Lut-
"terell, and am not ashamed to tell
"you who I am." "I beg pardon,"
said one of them, "but she must be
stripped." "Then," said I, "if it
"must be done, send for a woman, and
"let her go into some room for the
"purpose." She now came to herself,
and insisted on not being searched, de-
claring she had nothing about her, and
offering to swear it, if required; but,
this would not do; searched she must
be. My fellow-traveller swore and
raved like a mad-man, and wished the
woman at the devil, for detaining us;
but, I was so convinced of her inno-
cence,

cence, that I determined to stand by her. Three women at last appeared, and being ordered to search her, took her into a room, and I went with them; and, to my wonderful surprize, they soon delivered this lady of her burden; for they took from her, not a child, but a bandage, that went round her waist, that contained three hundred pounds-worth of lace. I was now vexed to the soul, ashamed of my conduct, and begged pardon for my credulity; and, did not escape the upbraidings of my fellow-traveller. The consequence of this piece of kindness was, that my box was taken to the Custom-house, and forty yards of silk, which I had ignorantly brought over in it, (not knowing that

that silk was prohibited) as a present to Mrs. Baddeley, was taken from me.

As soon as we were released from this embarrassment, we set off in a post-chaise for Lutterell's town, which was but a few miles from Dublin. In the way, I used every argument I was mistress of, to persuade my fellow-traveller not to treat his wife ill; and he promised he would not. When we reached the park gate, which was about a mile from the mansion, he got out, and swore he would not go to the house, but would stay there, and bid me send his wife to him in the chaise: so much did I wish to see Mrs. Baddeley and my friend, that I would not contest this matter with him, provided he would re-
turn

turn with her to the house, after he had seen her; which he assured me he would do. I met our man in the way, who told me the ladies were well, and would be in transports to see me; that, he was sent to enquire if there were any letters from me; that, my name was never mentioned, but Mrs. Baddeley wept, unhappy at my absence. On my arrival at the house, I enquired for Colonel Lutterell, and was told that he was not at home; however, I jumped out of the chaise, and desired the servant to shew me to the ladies. As soon as Mrs. Baddeley saw me, no pen can describe her joy; mine was equal to her's, and my child and friend so surprized, so elated, and so happy, that I was presently on the floor; one kissing my face, the

the other my neck, and another my hands; in short, they put it out of my power to speak a word for some time. At last, I made shift to tell my friend, that I had brought her husband with me, but that I could not prevail on him to come to the house, till he had seen her; that he was waiting for her at the park-gate, and that she must get into the chaise and go to him; that he was angry at her coming without his knowledge, but, that I would accompany her to him. "No," said Mrs. Baddeley, hanging round my neck, "I have now got you again, my dear Steele, and nothing shall ever part us, even for an instant. John shall go with her, with our compliments, and beg him to come here." John got up behind the

the chaise, and back it went. As soon as my fellow-traveller saw his wife, he began to upbraid her, with saying, she had led him a pretty dance; but, that as he had now got her, she should never return to Colonel Lutterell's, whilst he lived, and ordered the boys to drive him to Dublin. John went with them, and I was unhappy till his return. He brought me a letter from my friend, saying, her husband had made the deuce of a noise at first, but was at last a little pacified; that, unless I meant to return with them, they were to embark for England the next day; and, as I had brought him out, unprepared for such a journey, he must desire me to lend him thirty pounds, to take him back; and begged my answer in the

morning. Colonel Lutterell, with Colonel Smith, who had been to Dublin on business, now returned, and I was received by him in the most polite and friendly manner. He was happy at my arrival, particularly as he knew it would make Mrs. Baddeley so. He then enquired for our friend, and was made acquainted with every thing the reader has been told. He said, he would go to them in the morning, and try if he could not prevail on them to return, and stay a few days with him. We were elegantly entertained that evening, and Mrs. Baddeley assured me it was always the same, for he kept a noble table. Colonel Lutterell hoped I was come to continue with him. I told him not, and that I must hurry back as soon as I could.

could. He vowed, however, I should not go for three months, let what would happen. I had not a wish to return with the person I came with and his wife, as I had trouble enough with him in coming there, and therefore I determined to send him the thirty pounds he wanted. The money was sent the next morning, and an affectionate answer returned from my friend, with a desire to see me and Mrs. Baddeley, before they left Dublin; with her compliments and thanks to the Colonel, and Colonel Smith, for their polite behaviour to her. Mrs. Baddeley was very desirous of sleeping with me the night I came, which Colonel Lutterell acquiesced in, for that night only; so I plainly saw how matters were. When we were alone, she told

me the Colonel had been very kind to her; that she had an affection for him, and was determined to continue with him, if I would stay with her. "I have made him acquainted," added she, "with the whole of my affairs, and he has promised, if Lord Melbourne does not settle them, he will contrive to do it some way or other. As to Coleraine, I hate and despise him." I told her, that staying with her was out of the question; that I had promised to return to England, and certainly should; and, that she must go with me, for I could not be happy without her. We had no sleep all that night, and rose early to breakfast; and, when I told the history of my journey, and the behaviour of Lord Coleraine, I thought

thought the Colonel would have fallen from his chair with laughing. Indeed, when I considered the many different parts I played in life, and the many more I had to play, I wondered at my own abilities, resolution and spirits; so many scenes have I gone through, and so many strange adventures have I met with, that in recounting them, I can scarce credit the truth of them myself, and am led sometimes to conceive the whole as a fable; but, as I do not write merely to entertain, but to state facts, as they occur; my readers may rely on the authenticity of all I have related. I could have embellished this work, as other writers of memoirs have done, and filled them with observations and reflections, as I passed; a scheme which

others have often recourse to, to swell their volumes; had I pursued the same plan, twelve volumes, instead of six, would not have contained this history. I have, therefore, given my readers a plain narrative of facts, and shall leave them to make such reflections on them as they please.

It was settled to accompany Colonel Lutterell the next day to Dublin, and dine with some friends of his at the Castle; see my fellow-traveller there, and his wife, and take our leave of them. We went, and I drew from them a promise not to let Lord Coleraine know where I, or Mrs. Baddeley, was. The gentleman seemed quite happy, and was reconciled to his wife; laughed at his

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own foolish conduct; begged my pardon for his behaviour to me, and said, that had I not clapped the pistol to his breast, he verily believed he should have tumbled me into the sea. He then told me every thing that occurred between him and Lord Coleraine, said, when at Brighthelmstone, he was taken for a mad-man; "And indeed, I was as wild," said he, "as him." They sat off the next day for England; we dined in Dublin, and returned to Lutterell's town in the evening.

The next morning Mrs. Baddeley acquainted me, that Colonel Lutterell said, he would plan an arrangement of her affairs with me, and had a proposal to make me. During my stay, the
Colonel

Colonel spared no trouble or expence to shew me every place, within a day's ride, worth seeing, and all the amusements at Dublin. Mrs. Baddeley was there known as the Honourable Mrs. Steele, and was as much admired at the polite places there, as in England. It gave me pleasure to see the Colonel's attention, which was that of an indulgent friend; not extravagant, but far above any meanness; and fourteen days past in the greatest comfort I think I ever enjoyed. Surely Providence chequers our happiness with occasional troubles, to make us taste our enjoyments the more, or troubles would not occur so often as they do. These fourteen days of social intercourse and placid retirement were at last interrupted. On the fifteenth day

day, we were to dine with Colonel Lutterell, at a friend's house at Dublin; and we all three went in his post-chaise. The Colonel never went without a pair of loaded pistols, which were in the front pocket. In our way to Dublin, we passed through Phoenixpark, and were in high spirits; but, they were suddenly checked by a sight of a noddy, or one-horse chaise, with a box in front, on which I discovered Lord Coleraine's servant. As soon as they saw us, they stopped: Lord Coleraine, who was in the noddy, jumped out, his man followed him, and they came up and stopped our carriage. Mrs. Baddeley was so much frightened, that Colonel Lutterell called out to Lord Coleraine, and asked him, sternly, what

what he wanted. His Lordship replied, he wanted the ladies that were in the carriage with him. "How dare you," cried the Colonel, "stop my chaise?" "Because," replied Lord Coleraine, "I want Mrs. Baddeley." "You have no business with her," said the Colonel, "and of course you shall not have her. If you require any satisfaction from me, I am ready to give it you; but, the lady you shall not have, by G—d; for, I will defend her with my life." "I came here, Sir," returned Lord Coleraine, "for her, and from this place I will not go without her." The Colonel bad his servant go on. "No, Sir," said his Lordship, "he shall not go on." At this, the Colonel addressed himself to me, for Mrs. Baddeley

Baddeley was too much frightened to attend to him. "Mrs. Steele," said he, "do you put yourself under my protection?" "I do Sir," replied I, "and am ready to assist you to the utmost of my power. "Out jumped the Colonel with his pistols, and I after him. "Come Sir," said he to Lord Coleraine, "take one of them, and let us end this matter, as gentlemen ought to do." Lord Coleraine then begged his pardon, said, he saw the impropriety of his own conduct, and was sorry; begged the Colonel to put up his pistols, and said to me, insultingly, "You see, Madam, I have found out Mrs. Baddeley, without your information." "Take care what you say, Sir," said the Colonel, "for, by G—d, you

“ you shall not offend Mrs. Steele. She
“ is under my protection, and the least
“ rudeness to her, will be resented by
“ me.” Mrs. Baddeley said not a
word, but looked as pale as death, and
trembled like a leaf. The Colonel
then told his Lordship, that as he had
made a proper concession for his ill be-
haviour, he should pass it over for that
time, but advised him to be cautious
how he acted in the same manner again.
He then took Mrs. Baddeley in his
arms, and begged her to be happy,
Lord Coleraine came nearer to her, and
asked her if she would not speak to him;
and, on her making no answer, he struck
his forehead with the palm of his hand,
and exclaimed, “ O God, I shall go
“ mad !” Then turning to the Colonel,
said,

said, "Give me leave, Sir, to come to
 "your house as a gentleman, for I
 "have something to propose in behalf
 "of Mrs. Baddeley, that will atone
 "for my past misconduct; and, I re-
 "quest, for humanity's sake, that you
 "will indulge me with a candid hear-
 "ing; and, if what I have to propose,
 "should be so unfortunate as not to
 "meet with her and your approbation,
 "I promise you, upon my honour, that
 "I will take my leave of you as be-
 "comes a gentleman, and never trou-
 "ble you more." To this, Colonel
 Lutterell replied, "My Lord, you now
 "talk with some degree of reason, and
 "as I have Mrs. Baddeley's happiness
 "much at heart, I am ready to hear
 "what you have to propose, and shall

“ be proud to see your Lordship at my
“ house for that purpose ; but, permit
“ me to say, that I hope you do not
“ mean to amuse me with an idle tale ;
“ for, I am determined you shall never
“ have Mrs. Baddeley from me, with-
“ out her own consent. We dine at
“ Dublin, and shall return in the even-
“ ing, where you will find me, either
“ then, or to-morrow morning.” He
begged hard to take Mrs. Baddeley by
the hand, but the Colonel swore by
G—d he should not. He then bowed
submissively ; we went on, and he re-
turned to his noddy, and looked like a
man crazed. Mrs. Baddeley could not
but observe how strange a man Lord
Coleraine was ; that, he haunted her
like a ghost, and was now come to in-
terrupt

interrupt her peace. The Colonel assured her, that neither he nor any one else should discompose her; that, for her sake, he would hear what he had to say; and, if she would trust herself in his hands, he would take care to manage him properly. "As to you, Steele," said he, addressing himself to me, "you have a good spirit of your own, and had I stood in need of a second, I find I should not have wanted one."

In Dublin, there was every thing to regale and entertain us; but, a heavy gloom hung over Mrs. Baddeley, as she dreaded the consequence of Lord Coleraine's coming to Ireland; apprehending he had some evil design against the Colonel, her, or me. We returned from Dublin soon; and, as we passed

through Phoenix-park, we saw poor Gaby, wandering like a solitary lover: as the chaise passed him, he bowed, and we returned it. Mrs. Baddeley was, at the first sight of him, seized with such a trembling, that I feared she would have fallen into fits. She entreated the Colonel not to fight with him, and wished to extort a promise from him to that effect. His reply was, that he could not tell how he might be circumstanced, but assured her, on his honour, no such thing should take place that night. In the evening Lord Coleraine came, and drank tea with us. He kept his eyes fixed on Mrs. Baddeley, but she did not afford him one kind look. Colonel Lutterell sat by her. After tea, Lord Coleraine said, he wished to have some conver-

conversation with Mrs. Baddeley alone, but she opposed this altogether; said, she had no secrets, and whatever he had to say, must be before the whole company. Colonel Smith was present. He said, he was not ashamed to declare, that his love and affection for her, was so great, that without her, his life was not worth the holding; that, he wished to have her home with him, whilst he or she lived; that he would make a settlement on her, and pay every debt she owed, let the sum be what it would. The Colonel asked him, whether he knew the amount of her debts; he replied, he did; and that he had it from Mr. P. whom he had often conversed with on the subject. The Colonel asked him what they amounted to. His Lord-

ship said, between three and four thousand pounds. This he was ready to pay, and more if necessary; provided she would be reconciled to him, and live with him. "Nay," continued he, "as the fullest test of my love, when ever she is at liberty, if I am living, I will marry her." The Colonel said, he did not hear Mrs. Baddeley say she would accept these terms.— "Nor," returned Lord Coleraine, "does she say she will not." "I will, Sir," said Mrs. Baddeley, "give an answer to this, for I am determined never to leave this country." "This shall be no objection," returned his Lordship, addressing himself to her, "for if it be your choice, it shall be mine."—"But," continued she, "I will not leave

"leave this house; nor, in short, will
 "I consent to hear any more of this
 "conversation. I have experienced
 "your cruelty sufficiently, not to trust
 "myself again in any house of your's."

His Lordship confessed he had not done,
 as he ought to have done by her, and
 was so convinced of his fault, that he
 would now give up all he had to make
 atonement; and must own, that he
 thought her of the two, by far the most
 cruel, not to forgive one who loved her
 as he did, and had made such ample
 concessions and proposals. He hoped,
 therefore, she was not serious, on saying
 she would not leave the house she was
 in. She declared she was serious; that
 she was happy now, under the roof of
 a gentleman who knew how to treat a
 woman;

woman; and, that she valued and esteemed him on that account; and said, that it was brutal in him, to take the pains he did to interrupt her peace; that, she owed his Lordship no ill will; sincerely wished him happy; and, as her heart was then engaged, with an object deserving it, she would by no means withdraw it. "I loved you once," said she, "I do acknowledge, and had you but treated me with common attention and civility, I should have loved you still; but you took advantage of my fondness, insulted my regard, and acted like a tyrant; deaf to my cries, and unmoved by my tears, you deserted me, at a time you owed me protection; left me in distress and misery, and made your father your excuse; and,

“ and, had not my dear friend, now
 “ sitting by me, (pointing to me)
 “ assisted me in this extremity, and
 “ enabled me to pay those debts, which
 “ were partly contracted by you, and
 “ left by you unpaid; a jail would have
 “ been my portion, and I should have
 “ pined away my life in wretchedness.”

“ My dear Mrs. Baddeley,” returned
 his Lordship, “ I trust there is some
 “ merit in acknowledging one’s faults;
 “ I take shame to myself, and own my-
 “ self guilty of all you charge me with;
 “ but, I have had leisure for reflection,
 “ and am come here with a resolution
 “ to atone for all my misconduct; to
 “ entreat your pardon, for every offence
 “ I have committed, and to assure you,
 “ that if you will forgive me, and suffer

“ me

“ me once more to enjoy the only wish
“ I have on earth, that I will, by my
“ future conduct, convince you of my
“ sincerity, and shew you how much I
“ am devoted to you.” Every one sat
with attention whilst he spoke this, nor
was he interrupted, but by Mrs. Bad-
deley, who told his Lordship, that her
conversation and his would not be
pleasing to her friends; that, as she was
determined to know him no more, than
as a friend, she requested he would drop
the subject; then, turning to the Co-
lonel, she begged his pardon for being
the involuntary cause of interrupting the
quiet of his house, and hoped he would
excuse it. The Colonel entreated she
would not apologize to him, as he
thought himself highly honoured in the
confidence

confidence she reposed in him; and, whilst she thought proper to continue under his roof, she would always meet with his protection, and regard; and that, whilst he lived, he would gladly share his fortune with her, for he held her as a valuable prize, and should feel the loss of her, more than any thing that could happen to him. "And now, " my Lord," said he to Lord Coleraine, "as you have heard Mrs. Baddeley's declaration, I must request that you will desist from any further pursuits, and it will lay me under an obligation," Lord Coleraine, replied, he was too much hurt, to make an immediate answer, and told the Colonel he had a favour to ask of him. The Colonel answered, there was none that he

he could ask, independent of Mrs. Baddeley, but he would readily grant. This favour was, to have a bed at his house for that night. This was politely consented to, provided no more was said on the subject, that proved so disagreeable. The conversation now took a different turn; but, Lord Coleraine was silent, and seemed to muse within himself; which led me to apprehend, he had some dark design in view; especially, as I thought no man who loved a woman, could wish to sleep under the same roof with her, whilst she was in the arms of a rival. Mrs. Baddeley recovered her usual spirits, and paid great attention to Colonel Lutterell, who did not fail in a respectful return. When supper was over, the Colonel said, to
Mrs.

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Mrs. Baddeley, "When you please to go
 "to bed, do me the favour to put this
 "on the table;" taking something from
 his pocket, and giving it to her. She
 said, she found herself sleepy, and would
 wish us a good night. Lord Coleraine,
 who had not spoke for an hour, said,
 "Good night, Mrs. Baddeley." The
 compliment was returned, and she then,
 addressing herself to me, said, "Come,
 "my dear Steele, will you go?" And,
 then to the Colonel, "Don't be long
 "before you come." "Certainly, my
 "dear," returned he, "I will not."
 As soon as we were gone, Lord Cole-
 raine entered into close conversation
 with Colonel Lutterell, confessed his
 love for Mrs. Baddeley, and said, he
 could not possibly live without her; but,

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that if he could only obtain from her a promise, that she would return to him at some future time, he would go away contented, and stay in Dublin till that happy time arrived; that, he would chearfully set her free in the world, and settle on her five hundred pounds a year, for her life; and, absolutely cried like a child. The Colonel told him, he would talk the matter over with him, the next morning; wished him a good night, and ordered his servant to attend his Lordship to his chamber. Mrs. Baddeley was very uneasy at the Colonel's being left with Lord Coleraine; but, as I assured her, from what I saw, that his Lordship loved himself too well to think of fighting, she hoped no mischief would ensue. I told her, that
I supposed

I supposed my fellow-traveller had made Lord Coleraine acquainted with the place she was at; and, that I imagined by this time, Lord Melbourne knew it too; for Lord Coleraine would be happy to make him acquainted with it, in order to check the connexion between them. She was of the same opinion; and that, notwithstanding all Lord Coleraine's great offers, if she confided in them, she should find herself deceived; for, that as soon as he got her to London, he would break his faith with her. I reasoned with her, however, on her affairs, and said, it was proper to think of them; for, I dreaded the consequence of being wholly in the hands of Mr. P. I said the same to Colonel Lutterell, when he came up-stairs, who thought

“pect before us; but, Mr. Sayer has
“fallen in my way since, and has
“assured me, that he will not only pay
“the rent of this house, and the ex-
“pence of house-keeping, but every
“debt I owe, and provide for me, in a
“manner that will make me happy; of
“course the case is different.” I doubted
whether this was in his power; and, if
in his power, whether he would be so
inclined. “Besides,” added I, “Mr.
“Sayer is such a Wilkite, that when
“your friends know he is one of your
“visitors, they will instantly forsake
“you.” She said, they should never
know it; and, if they did, what need
she care for the world, if she was happy:
That Mr. Sayer was not only a gentle-
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man, but a man of business, and would look into her affairs, and settle them; and, that his being Sheriff, would keep the bailiffs at a distance; for he had ordered the under-sheriff, if any writs were out against her, to send him word of it. In short, through her persuasions, I took the house, and agreed to pay Lord Delawar, two hundred pounds a year for it, and to purchase a good deal of handsome furniture, left by Lady Rich to his Lordship. We no sooner took possession of it, than Lord Cholmondeley made proposals to Mrs. Baddeley; (as I have hinted before), but she told him, she could listen to no one, that would not agree to pay her debts. He enquired what these amount-

ed to, and he would do it, for he was over head and ears in love. She told him, that she scarce knew herself; but would inform his Lordship the next day, if he would do her the honour to call on her. He came the next day, and being told she owed between three and four thousand pounds, it immediately cooled his affection, and put an end to his pursuit, and his visits.

The next applicant for her attachment was the little Jew, Mr. Franco, whom I have mentioned before. He waited on her; said he had heard she had been under a cloud, and came to offer his assistance, and would let her have as much money as she wished. This was said.

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said privately to herself; and on her asking him, what reward he expected for it, he replied, only such a return as she had in her power to grant, and she might have as many thousands as she pleased; "for, dow I be so leedle a man," said he, "I can buy all your Lords, and have losed you many a year; tell me den, how mash monies you do owe, and I will pay dem all." "I am sure you will not," returned she, "so 'tis in vain to mention it." "I will upon my honour," said he, "derefore tell me, how mosh monies vill do." "Four thousand pounds," cried she. "Vore toufand pouns! dat be grate monies indeed!" replied Mr. Mordicai. "Did not I say," said Mrs.

-Baddeley, "that if I told you, you
 "would not pay it, though you declar-
 "ed upon your honour that you would."
 "Yes," replied he, "boat I could not
 "conceive you could owe so mosh:
 "vore toufand pouns! O Lord, dat is
 "a monftruous foam indeed; it is as
 "mosh as would buy an estate vor
 "loife." In short, as this sum fright-
 ened Lord Cholmondeley, so it fright-
 ened away the little Jew's love; and,
 he took his leave, with saying, he was
 sorry his fortune would not admit of his
 doing it. And after this, we never saw
 any more of him.

Mr. Sayer did not live in Cleveland-
 row with us, but visited us daily, and
 frequently

frequently brought his friends there to dine with him, who appeared to be trencher-friends, for they lived as it were upon him; and, he entertained them chiefly with beef-stakes, which he would broil himself, on the dining-room fire; a stile of living we had not been used to, and it made such a stink and dirt, that I was ready to go distracted; and, the conversation of these people ran in invectives against the Royal Family, whom they were pleased to speak so ill of, that I have often left the room with anger; and, thought they deserved a halter for their disaffection. His whole party was equally violent, and convinced me, that these men, who call themselves Patriots, have not a grain.

grain of real love for their country. However, he paid great attention to Mrs. Baddeley, and, in a little time, became master of her heart. She proved with child by him, went her time, and was brought to bed of a son, whom she called *Stephen Sayer*, of which I shall speak more of hereafter. During the time of his connexion with her, she shut herself up, and would see no one but his friends; indeed, all her former ones deserted her; for, as Mrs. Baddeley's great weakness was that, of telling every thing she heard, they thought it dangerous to visit her; lest this red-hot patriot should get hold of any thing they might drop in conversation with her,

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her, and might put improper constructions upon it.

When Mrs. Baddeley lay in, Doctor Hunter attended her, at my desire; Mr. Sayer being then imprisoned in the Tower, on a charge of high treason, by Captain Richardson; and, at this time, he told us the following story. He said, he was physician to a noble family, whose daughter, a sweet young lady, of sixteen, had been seduced by a young nobleman who frequented the house, and was unfortunately with child; that the matter was kept a secret from all, but her maid and him, whom she made a confidante in the business; that, she carried on the deception till the time of
her

her lying by, complaining of a pain in her bowels; and absolutely kept her bed four months, that the alteration of her person might not be noticed. "Out of compassion to this young lady," said the Doctor, "I was induced to favour the deception, but requested, when her labour came on, that she would not cry out; as I would not have it known, that I carried on such a matter clandestinely, for a thousand guineas. I advised her to complain, occasionally, of the cramp in her stomach, which would be a plea for sending for me suddenly, when her pains came on. She followed my directions in this, and I was with her at the critical juncture. 'For God's sake, Miss,'

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‘ Miss,’ said I, ‘ make no noise,’ but
 “ she bawled out, ‘ I will make a noise,
 ‘ for I can’t help it.’ “ And though I
 “ begged her, on my knees, to smother
 “ her pains, and be silent, lest we
 “ should be all exposed; she began
 “ shrieking and screaming in the most
 “ violent manner; breaking out at intervals,
 “ ‘ I will make a noise, and
 “ cry out, in spite of the Doctor!’—
 “ These cries brought my Lady, her
 “ mother, into the room, and the whole
 “ secret was out. I never,” continued
 he, “ was so frightened in my life, and
 “ I vowed, from that minute, I would
 “ never keep any woman’s secret again.”

That

That I may not be supposed to injure the character of Mr. Sayer, by saying that he was disaffected to the present Royal Family, I will tell the reader, that by the death of Mrs. Ann Harding, in May, 1786, widow of John Harding, Esq. of Charter-house, Honiton, in Somersetshire, and who had been Sheriff of that county, I became possessed of fundry papers, and, among the rest, a parcel of letters written to him by Mr. Stephen Sayer, of which the following is a copy of part of one of them.

London, 23 March, 1771.

" Dear Sir,

" We are likely to have some
" serious matters, of the political kind

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VOL. VI

" 'ere long. Wilkes has brought the
" Commons into a damnable dilemma,
" by attacking his two old friends, the
" K—g, and Lord Hallifax. I hope
" there remains some spirit of English-
" men among us, which will soon blast
" the men who are striving to ruin this
" great kingdom. That you and I may
" live to share the spoils of those raf-
" cals, and be rewarded with what we
" really merit, is my ardent wish, when
" I bid you adieu !

" Your's most respectfully,

" Stephen Sayer."

One evening we went to Hammer-
smith, and meant to stay there all night,
but Mrs. Baddeley suddenly altering her
Vol. VI. I mind,

mind, was determined to return to town. It was then ten o'clock at night, in the summer time; we accordingly sent our servant to the King of Bohemia's-Head, where our carriage stood, and ordered our coachman to bring it; he sent word, the horses were littered up, and he should not take them out that night. This angered us much, and, late as it was, I begged she would accompany me, and I would answer for it, she should have the coach. She went with me, and when we came to the inn, I entered the tap-room, where our coachman was, and asked, with a loud voice, "Where is this fellow, that dare refuse to bring our coach when we order him?" He stood up, but said nothing; on which, I bad him

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him directly put the horses to, for I would have the carriage immediately. He grumbled, went to the stable, and returned, saying he had lost the key; at this I went, and with my foot burst open the door. "Now sir," said I, "harness the horses, and take them out." He did it, but very slowly, and on this, I gave the hostler a shilling to assist him, and the carriage was soon brought to the door of the inn. I then called to Mrs. Baddeley, begged her to get into the coach, and leave me to manage the fellow. She got in, and the coachman was ready to get upon his box. "Where is my phaeton harness?" said I to him. "In the stable, Madam," replied he. "Give me your whip," re-

turned I, "and go and fetch it, I shall
"want it in town, to-morrow." He
gave me his whip, and went to the sta-
ble for it; and whilst he was gone, I
mounted the box, and drove off the
coach, as fast as the horses could gallop;
not to our house, at Hammersmith-
hope, but to the George, at Chiswick,
where I stopped, and got into the coach.
The master of the house hearing a car-
riage stop, came out. I told him I had
sent our coachman, who drove us there,
back to our house on business, and beg-
ged him to put up the carriage, in
some place where it could be locked up,
and give me the key, and to take care
of the horses for that night. He did so,
gave me the key, and said I might de-
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pend on his care of them. I then ordered a post-chaise, and we went to town. The next morning Mr. P. called, with a, "Well ladies, I hear you have turned coachmen!" "Yes," replied I, "and that fellow of your's, shall no more drive us, for his impudence." "Where is the coach?" said he. "Safe enough," replied I, "where you will never see it again. You thought proper to take the carriage from us, very unjustifiably, and now it is in my possession again, I mean to keep it, and not pay you any thing for the use of it." He said, he would shortly convince us to the contrary, and left us. Mrs. Baddeley was pleased beyond measure, at what I had done; and a com-

mission of bankruptcy being taken out a few days after, against Mr. P. put an end to his connexions with us. We had now many debts to encounter with; as those who had sued him for his notes, given in behalf of Mrs. Baddeley, called upon her for payment; for when his commission took place, there were debts unpaid, to the amount of one thousand seven hundred pounds: some of her creditors indulged her with time to pay them; others took out writs against her, which Mr. Sayer, by virtue of his office, prevented being served; and our house being in the verge of the court, we were tolerably at ease.

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Mr. Sayer having directed his deputy Sheriff always to send him word, when any writs were out against Mrs. Baddeley, the following note proves this fact, it being a true copy.

“ Mr. Sayer presents his compliments to Mrs. Baddeley, and acquaints his dear love, that he has taken the liberty of sending to Mr. Reynolds, who writes, that there are two writs out against her; one by Laws.—He begs Mrs. B. would not think of going to the masquerade to-night: he will come to her about 11 o'clock, and spend the evening with her.

“ If

“ If Mrs. B. has three tickets
“ to spare, Mr. S. begs she will send
“ them.”

Friday, 6 o'clock.

The day now arrived, when Mrs. Baddeley was to play for Miss Young; and Mr. Sayer, lest she should meet with any interruption or affront from bailiffs, determined to go with her; as by giving him the writs, when in her company, he should be fixed with them, and she would remain unmolested; and I took good care, to have a number of Mrs. Baddeley's friends present to applaud her, in order to bring about an engagement. When she made her appearance upon the stage, the applause
from

from all parts of the house, was so great and so loud, that it was more than ten minutes before she could begin. She played her part well, and was applauded at every pause she made. Mr. Garrick was present, and came to me; and said he was happy to see her so well received, and continue so great a favourite with the town. "You must prevail with her," added he, "to return to us; it is an easy matter for you to do it, if you will." "No, Sir;" replied I, "the matter is not so easy as you imagine, for she has taken a dislike to the stage; and, nothing but a wish to serve Miss Young in her embarrassed situation, would have induced her to have performed now."

"now." He said, he would give her an advanced salary; that, before she had only fourteen guineas a week, and found her own cloaths; but, now he would give her the same sum, and find her cloaths agreeable to her own choice. I told him, I would do all in my power to persuade her, but could not promise him success. He pressed me much upon this subject, and begged he might hear from me in a day or two.

As soon as the play was over, Mr. Sayer begged her to accompany him into the front boxes, where there was a seat or two vacant, by some persons going away; for the house had been as full as it could hold, (pit and boxes laid together.)

together.) Miss Young thanked her for her kindness, and invited us to supper; but we declined. Her going into the front-boxes with Mr. Sayer, shewed her friends who it was she then noticed, which hurt her much in their opinion. Mr. Sayer was not liked by them, and he took no small pains to convince the public, that he was in her esteem, by conversing with her the whole time, taking hold of her hand, and handing her through all her friends, from the box to her carriage, where he got in with her, and attended her home. I was with Mr. Garrick, and had sent her word not to wait for me, as I would return in a chair. Mr. Garrick told me, he had heard from a gentleman, that
there

there were bailiffs at every door, waiting to arrest Mrs. Baddeley and me. I told him, they might arrest her, but could not arrest me; unless it was for a note of two hundred pounds, which I had given jointly with Mr. P. to discharge a debt she owed. Mr. Garrick said, that the attorney was with the bailiffs, and if I wished it, he would go and enquire into it. He did, and brought me word it was for two hundred pounds. "Now," said Mr. Garrick, "if you will do as I direct you, you will get away safe; which is, to dress yourself in a suit of men's cloaths. There is a suit in which the *Irish Widow* is performed; I fancy they will fit you, and I would have you put them on." I took his advice,

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advice, dressed myself in them, (they fitted me well) clubbed my hair, took a sword in my hand, and walked through them all undiscovered; when out of the house, I ran for it, and met with no interruption, but from ladies of the town, in the Strand, who laid hold of me, and I was obliged to fly to my pocket to disengage myself. No coach or chair was to be got, and I was obliged to walk home. When I reached my own house, being in good spirits, I knocked at the door, and asked for Mrs. Baddeley. My servant, who did not know me, said she was at home, but engaged, and could not be seen. I sent in word that my name was Conway, and I had some business from my brother to com-

municate: I knew this was a name that would gain me admittance, and it did. I was ordered up into the drawing-room, where she came to me, and I made my bow; but did not speak a word. She asked me my business, and I laid hold of her; this so frightened her, that she screamed as for life; so that the Sheriff ran up to her assistance, who in me found no rival, for he instantly knew me; and such a laugh it occasioned, that the sudden transition from fear to joy, almost overcame Mrs. Baddeley. When I related the story, she said, she should ever love Mr. Garrick for his attention; and, when I told her of the proposal he made for her returning to the theatre, she said, "Send
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“ him word, that I will play for him,
“ purely for his kindness to you.”

Having thus prevailed on Mrs. Baddeley to return to her profession, I was unwilling she should submit to the arbitrary disposition of Mr. Garrick; and wished her to see whether she could get an engagement at Covent-garden. For, Mr. Garrick, though a polite man in other respects, from an idea that a manager must either ride, or be ridden, was a very tyrant behind the scenes: she said, therefore, she would sound Mr. Harris, the manager of Covent-garden Theatre; and, if she found him disposed to engage, she should be able to make better terms with Mr. Garrick.

She wished me, therefore, to call on Mr. Harris, which I did, and not seeing him, I left a note, saying Mrs. Baddeley begged to speak with him. He politely called on her the next day; when she told him, she had some little inclination of playing again, and was desirous of consulting him upon the occasion. He was happy, he said, to hear that she was of that mind, and if agreeable to her, would engage her for the next season; as the present one, being too much advanced, the parts filled up, and the benefits coming on, would not be worth her notice. Mr. Harris, like the rest of mankind, in this visit, was struck with Mrs. Baddeley, could not help expressing his sentiments

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on the occasion, and staid with her two hours. He called once or twice after this; but her engaging with Mr. Garrick, as will be shewn, put an end to his visits; for, as I was fearful, that delaying the engagement might alter her mind, I said, I would apply to Mr. Garrick; as not acting till the next season, would be only losing of time. The next morning, therefore, I sent to him, and he was presently with us; when taking Mrs. Baddeley by the hand, said, "You beautiful Run-away, why did you leave us?"—The terms were again repeated, on which she was to play; and after expressing himself happy in having her again, he left us. Mrs. Baddeley said, she could have cried for

joy, to find herself so well received by all her old friends. "Now, Mrs. Steele, "you shall see," said she, "I will re-
"turn to my business, and will be
"happy with Mr. Sayer and you."—
Mr. Sayer was pleased with this engagement, and more particularly, as Mr. Garrick solicited it himself; which would give her an opportunity of keeping him in order. I lost no time, but went to Mr. Garrick the next day, and hastened the engagement; I breakfasted with him, and he sent for his attorney, and ordered the agreements to be instantly prepared, saying, he had some new pieces coming out, in which she would shine.

In

In a short time after this, she appeared again upon the stage; but the attention Mr. Sayer paid her in public, kept every former friend from her, but such as could be introduced to him, which were not persons of fashion; so that none of those who used to call upon her, ever left their names, or spoke to her in public; for she was never abroad without him. Lady Townshend, however, took the liberty to send to Mr. Sayer, to request the use of his gold chain, to go to a masquerade in, as her dress required such an ornament, and he lent it to her. We went also to this entertainment, and Mr. Sayer appeared in the character of Mungo. He observed to Mrs. Baddeley, as Lady Townshend passed him, that

that she was the only woman, except herself, that he had any partiality for; and that, if it was possible, he would decorate his Lordship's temples with some curled ornaments. "For," added he, "it will be only tit for tat, as Lord Townshend was treacherous and base enough to rob his son, Lord Ferrers, of his Lady." Mrs. Baddeley took Lord Townshend's part, and said, it was a proof that she liked the other best, by marrying him. "But," added she, "if *you* run after Lady Townshend, I will go and see my Lord; and then I shall be even with you."

On our return home from this masquerade, we were told, that a lady had
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been at our house, and made such a noise and disturbance at the door, that she got a mob round her; and had it not been for my brother, who called to see me at the same time, all the windows would have been broken. This woman said, she was the wife of a gentleman whom Mrs. Baddeley kept from her, and that he was then in the house. The story so enraged the mob, that they swore they would pull the house down, if she was not let in. The maids declared there was no man in the house; but, when my brother came, he asked her who her husband was. She said, "Mr. Sayer, the Sheriff." "If you *are* his wife," said my brother, "it would be more prudent in you to go
" home,

“ home, than make such a disturbance
 “ in the street, at this time of night.”
 She then began to abuse him; and, as
 she would not go away, he charged the
 watch with her, and sent her to the
 round-house; and she was, the next
 morning, bound over not to come to
 Cleveland-row again. This made Mr.
 Sayer stare not a little; he declared he
 was not married, and could not divine
 who the woman could be. In the morn-
 ing came my brother, and told us all
 that passed; said, the woman called
 herself Mrs. Pearson, and he found she
 lived in Berner’s-street, Oxford-road,
 and had lived there six years in good
 credit, in a house of her own: that
 Mr. Sayer got acquainted with her at a
 time

time he was in great distress; that she took him in, received him as her husband, and cloathed him; that, she had lent him money, and had sold out her little fortune to set him up as a banker, and could not get a single guinea back; that he had ruined her, and now forsook her; and, that two gentlemen, who lived in the same street, came to her assistance, and were bound for her.—

“She is a most violent woman,” continued my brother, “and struck me several times, as I was going with her to the watch-house.” I observed to Mrs. Baddeley, that if Mr. Sayer had so served her, he was a villain; and I would tell him so, if he came in my way.

Mr.

Mr. Sayer, on being told of this, said it was all lies, and Mrs. Baddeley believed him. He now proposed to find some means of settling her affairs, and asked her permission to wait on Lord Melbourne, and try what he could get from him. She consented to this; he went, and saw his Lordship; and, as he reported to us, prevailed on him to advance her three hundred pounds, which sum of money he appropriated to his own use; for Mrs. Baddeley never saw a shilling of it. He went also to many of her friends, but what he got I never knew; for he kept the whole to himself, and did not pay a single debt she owed. During this connexion, he frequently requested Mrs. Baddeley to
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get some of his notes changed into money, which she did by buying some trifle, such as a pound of tea, &c. and gave him the remainder. Mr. White, the tea-man, in Pall-Mall, changed a great many of them. Many a hundred pounds did we thus convert into cash. Mrs. Baddeley's money was now gone, and she did not know what to do, as she was unwilling to ask him for any. I told her, he had lived on her long enough, and I saw no impropriety in doing it. "I would have you ask him," said I, "for fifty pounds of your own money, which he received of Lord Melbourne; *that* you have a right to, as he does not pay it away; for, I have no money to lend you, and how

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“ the two hundred pounds will be paid,
“ for which the writ is out, God only
“ knows.” “ Oh,” replied she, “ don’t
“ be uneasy about that, Mr. Sayer says
“ he will bail it.” I told her, I would
not accept his bail; and though I was a
married woman, and could get off from
paying it, I was so sick of law, that I
would rather borrow the money, than
not do it. I paid it in a few days after,
and Mr. Sayer was angry, and said, I
might have lent the money I borrowed
to Mrs. Baddeley, and not have thrown it
away so foolishly. He then asked me,
how much Mrs. Baddeley owed me. I
told him, when I saw he was disposed,
and ready to pay me, I would let him
know, but not till then; and asked him,

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if he would pay me any part out of what he received from Lord Melbourne. He was not pleased with this; and, I therefore told him, as he did not seem to make a good use of the money he had of her's, he had better give it to me, and I would dispose of it for her; or if with that sum, and any money he had to spare, he would pay off a bond I had of Mrs. Baddeley's, I would give her a receipt for nine hundred pounds, which she owed me, besides the bond. "Will you?" said he. "Yes," I replied, "this instant." "Well then," returned he, "I will consider of it."—I told him, whether he paid or not, it was not very material, as I loved Mrs. Baddeley, and did not ask her for it; of

course it did not concern him. I went up to Mrs. Baddeley, who was then dressing, and acquainted her with it, and she was of my opinion, that he had no business with any private concerns between me and her. I advised her to ask Sayer for some of the money he received of Lord Melbourne; she did, and his answer was, "I see, Mrs. Steele
"has set you on to ask this, but
"I shall not do it; I expect, shortly,
"to get some more from other friends
"of your's, and will keep this till I
"can make up a pretty round sum, and
"pay it among your creditors; of course
"I will not part with a guinea:" and herein he kept both his word and the money.

I am

I am not able to express, how disagreeable this man became to me. His want of attention, his mode of conduct, and his manner of treating Mrs. Baddeley, was so different to what she and I had experienced, that it quite sickened me, who had nothing to do with him, but as an acquaintance. Mrs. Baddeley, before she knew him, was treated by all her fashionable friends and acquaintance, as a person of their own rank; but this man called and ordered her about, and bad her do this and that for him, as if she had been his servant. He used to say, that he hated servants about his person; was affectedly nice, and would have no one to wait on him but her.

Mr. P's Bankruptcy, as I before observed, brought many of Mrs. Baddeley's creditors upon her; and she had no resources to apply to for payment, but the three hundred pounds Mr. Sayer got from Lord Melbourne, and which he would not part with. Several writs were, therefore, taken out against her, but Mr. Sayer bailed them all, and thus prevented her being arrested; so far indeed he served her: but, the expences of house-keeping he bore no part of, and they were not small. As her money, therefore, was gone, both she and I were obliged to have recourse to our cloaths, and send them to the pawn-broker's. We were soon weary of this, and Mr. Sayer bringing his acquaintance
often

often to dinner with us, I was forced to acquaint him with our situation, and say, that some alteration must take place, for I could support the house no longer. He told me, that he had a plan in view, which would make us both happy, and for the present gave me one of his twenty pounds shop-notes, and begged me to get it changed, with a person who would not carry it immediately for payment, but where it was likely to circulate; for, he took some pains to circulate such notes, in order to establish the credit of his banking-house, which he had lately opened. I sent it to a friend of mine, who did not carry it for payment for some time; this pleased him, and he said, we should have as many

many more of them as we had occasion for; provided we would contrive that they should not be sent immediately to his house, as he had a partner in the business, and was unwilling to draw out more money, on his own private account, than he could possibly avoid.

As soon as Mr. Sayer found that his pocket was touched, he took very great liberties, and assumed a power in the house he never thought of before; and in a few days told us, that to save expences, he would live wholly with us; "and, I mean," said he, "to sleep here to-night." Mrs. Baddeley made no answer. Soon after he went out, when I spoke my mind freely to her,
and

and told her, I was determined, that if Mr. Sayer came to live with her, I would immediately leave her ; for, though I owned it would be a hard task to part with her ; I would absolutely do it, though it was at the sacrifice of my happiness. “ Do not,” said she, “ my
“ dear Steele, say so ; for life to me
“ without you, will be not worth hav-
“ ing. Besides, my expences have
“ drawn largely upon your little pro-
“ perty, and I have no money now to
“ repay you. I confess,” continued she, “ that I have a love for Mr. Sayer,
“ by whom I am now with child ; and
“ as, owing to my partiality to him, I
“ have lost all my friends ; what would
“ be the consequence, was I to object
“ to

“ to his living with me? He would
“ certainly leave me, and I should be
“ more distressed than ever; for good-
“ ness sake, then, reconcile yourself to
“ his coming here, and let us live hap-
“ pily together.” “ Never,” returned
I, “ let the consequence be what it
“ will.” She cried, and so did I; but
I had made up my mind on the occa-
sion, and was determined that nothing
should alter my resolution. I told her,
however, I would see her as often as she
pleased, and would be her friend when
I was from her. Mr. Sayer kept his
word, and staid all night. I sat up, and
the next morning asked him, whether
his intent was to reside in the house.
“ Certainly,” said he, “ it is.” “ Then,”
returned

returned I, "I shall leave it." I might, he said, if I pleased, for that was his home. He went to Mrs. Baddeley, and told her what had passed, which brought her to me; she hung round my neck, and begged me not to think of going: but I was resolved. Sayer joined us; "And how," said he, "have you two ladies settled it?" Mrs. Baddeley was unhappy, and told him her situation with me; that I had lent her all the money I was possessed of, had sold the little property I had, for her support, and had even parted with my cloaths for her maintenance. "Well," replied he, "if she has, she must, like the rest, sit down with the loss."—"Oh, Mr. Sayer," cried she, "how
"cruelly

“ cruelly do you treat me, in thus talk-
“ ing of my best friend, who has ruin-
“ ed herself for my sake ; I would not
“ wish to live, if she is not with me !”

All this, however, answered little purpose ; I put on my hat and cloak ; he held Mrs. Baddeley from interrupting me, and said, “ If Mrs. Steele is so
“ obstinate, for heaven’s sake, let her
“ go.” I then said, “ God bless you,” left the room, and the instant after, the house. Mr. Sayer staid with her more than a fortnight, to keep up her spirits, during which time she sent to me, two or three times a day, in the most affectionate way, and hoped I would return. She grew ill, and so did I ; for my love for her rather encreased by my absence,
it

it brought on a fever, and I kept my bed some days; the measles followed this, and rendered me unable to go abroad for some time. She also was confined to her bed, but as soon as she was able to go out, came to see me, and again intreated I would return with her; my resolution was unalterable; I told her I should be happy to see her at all opportunities, without him, and should Mr. Sayer leave her, would return to her, but not till then. This pacified her a little. She began now to be sensible of my consequence; said, she was always at a loss how to act, and should be an undone woman. I asked her, if she wanted any money; she replied, that on the day I left her, she

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had but eighteen-pence, and, that at that moment, she was mistress only of eight shillings. I put ten guineas into her purse, and said, when that was gone, she knew where to come for more. She wept at this, but took it, and asked me, as all her diamonds were gone, if I would give her a pair of paste ear-rings, and other things to imitate them, that she might make a good appearance on the stage. I told her, I would, with pleasure, and purchased her every thing complete in this way, and of the best kind, to the amount of eighty-six pounds. I paid her hoop-petticoat-maker, four pounds twelve shillings, for stage hoops, and always gave her a few guineas when she came to

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see me, or wrote me word that she wanted it. My friends perswaded me never to see her more; and, on an expectation that I would not, advanced me a sufficient sum of money to furnish two houses, which I let, and thus enabled myself to assist her.

Mrs. Baddeley was not, however, with all the love she professed for Mr. Sayer, more faithful to him than she had been to Lord Melbourne; for, soon after I left her, she became acquainted with Mr. George Edward Ramus, one of the Clerks of the Treasury; he professed great things, talked largely of what he would do for her, and by persuasions won her over to his wishes. He

was very fond of her, took all opportunity of being with her, and though she had no reason to complain of his affection, she had of his liberality. He told her, however, that he would do handsomely by her, as soon as he was able; that he had the best expectations, that the King was his godfather, took great notice of him, and did him the honour frequently to closet him, and that he should be preferred shortly. This gentleman, however, like her former friends, presently deserted her, and she had only to blame her own credulity.

A clergyman, who used to visit Mr. Sayer and me, was frequently at both houses; from him I learned, that Mrs.

Bad-

Baddeley would often declare herself under the highest obligations to me, and say how much she loved me ; but Sayer being displeased with it, she could not talk of me in his hearing. This gentleman told me, that he feared Mr. Sayer intended some evil against me ; for, he often said, if he could put an end to Mrs. Steele's life, he should be happy. What could stimulate him to this, I am at a loss to say ; unless it was, that I objected to his living with Mrs. Baddeley. However, when I heard of it, I wrote him a spirited letter, charged him with breaking his oath of office, and that I would make an example of him. This alarmed him much, and he was not easy till I was reconciled

to him. He came to me for this purpose, with a friend, and sent in his name, saying, he had something of moment to impart, and begged to see me; I sent word, he might then commit it to paper, for that I was engaged, and could not see him. This would not do. He must see me himself, and if I could fix the time, would call upon me again. To be no further troubled with him, I saw him, in company with his friend, and asked him, what he could possibly want with me. He told me, my letter not only surprized him, but alarmed him; and, rather than I should be his enemy, he would make what concessions I thought proper, for any supposed offence he might have given. To enter
into

into all the conversation between us, at this interview, would be far from entertaining to my reader; let it suffice to say, that I gave him to understand, that Mrs. Baddeley might date her downfall from the hour she became acquainted with him; that all her friends had deserted her on his account, and that he did not seem disposed to support her, but withheld from her the little money he had of her's in possession; that, it was this gave me offence; that his being with her had occasioned a separation between us, and had divided me from all I held dear. He was sorry, he said, that his fondness and attachment to Mrs. Baddeley, should be the occasion of my unhappiness; that I might still be with
her

her if I pleased, and that this separation was an act of my own. I told him, that I was too honest to carry a double face; that I disliked her connexions with him; that I detested his principles; and, that I would not live under the same roof with him for the world; but, that if he would not trouble me, or think of me, I would never molest him. This seemed to quiet him, and we parted; but he still cherished vengeance in his bosom, and declared, to a person from whom I heard it; that, whenever an opportunity offered, he would be even with me. That opportunity, however, never offered, and of course I was never troubled with him.

Mrs.

Mrs. Baddeley was with me as often as she could, and I lent her, at different times, a great deal of money. She came to me one morning, and asked me for the loan of forty pounds. Not supposing it was for her own use, I told her I had not so much by me. She was sure, she said, I had, and hoped I would oblige her. "Tell me," replied I, "the use you design it for, and I will go and borrow it." This she said, she could not do, as she had passed her word to the contrary. "Then," returned I, "you must excuse my doing it; for I cannot get forty pounds, without some difficulty." Convinced the money was not for herself, but to serve her friend, I did not find myself disposed

disposed to let her have it; for I had sufficient use for all the money I was mistress of; and though I would have strained a point to serve *her*, it did not follow, that I was to distress myself to serve her friend. She was a little hurt at this, and I did not see her for more than a month afterwards; as I would never go, where there was a chance of meeting Mr. Sayer.

In the foregoing part of this work, I promised to shew my reader, that Colonel Morgan, then Captain Morgan, got a rich wife, by accidentally becoming acquainted with Mrs. Baddeley, when she was searching the streets, at midnight, for her cat. This gentleman
called

called on her frequently afterwards, and she introduced him to Mr. Sayer, with whom he became intimate. At Mr. Sayer's house in Oxford-street, he met with a young lady, an heiress to a good estate and a personal property of twenty thousand pounds. She came on business, to Mr. Sayer's banking-house, with an aunt, a woman of family and good fortune, under whose care she was. Mr. Sayer cultivated an acquaintance with this family, and, in a few months, married the aunt, introduced his friend Captain Morgan, and he married the niece. The Captain was, in every sense of the word, a gentleman, and I have always understood, made his Lady happy; but Sayer, who married
the

the old lady for her money, declared as much; said he absolutely hated her, and should have shrunk from the alliance, but that her fortune would save him from ruin. When he told Mrs. Baddeley this, it made her wretched; for she loved him beyond measure, and his only plea in his defence was, that as she was a married woman, and could never be his wife; and as his affairs were so embarrassed, that he should be ruined without money; he thought he could not do a better thing than what he had done; particularly as it would enable him to give her every thing she wished.

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This marriage of Mr. Sayer's, so affected Mrs. Baddeley, who was then big with child by him, that she became low-spirited, and kept her bed. Mr. Sayer now took a house for her, at twenty five pounds a year, in a by-street, adjoining Rathbone-place, in order to be near him and to save expences; here she removed, and being much alone, she fell into a hypochondriac state, and could not bear the day-light, nor the light of a candle; nor dare the nurse have any fire, on account of the light, nor make the least noise. At this time she had not a month to go, and was so ill, that she could neither eat, drink, nor see any one but Doctor Hunter, who attended her daily. By Mr. Sayer's

marriage with this lady, he was enabled to make a very good appearance, but his generosity did not abound to poor Mrs. Baddeley. I was out of town at this juncture, and did not hear of her illness. On my return, Doctor Hunter called on me, acquainted me with the state of Mrs. Baddeley's mind and health, and the danger he thought her in; and said, was I to go and see her, it might restore her; for, at intervals, she would talk, but it was only of me, and the love she bore me; that she fancied herself a supernatural being, and sometimes a China jar, and the like; that her disorder was dreadful, especially in her present situation, and requested me to accompany him, and see whether

whether my visit would work at all upon her mind ; for, that, for two months, she had lived in the dark, and almost without food. He told me, Mr. Sayer had sent to him to attend her, but had not behaved to him as a gentleman ought, and, that nothing would have induced him to continue his attendance but humanity ; and this would lead him to see her daily, till she was delivered. I thanked the doctor for her ; said, I had it not in my power to compliment him for his goodness to her, as I wished ; but would give him a ten pound bank-note on her delivery. This he said would amply pay him, and we then got out the carriage, and went to Mrs. Baddeley. As soon as I entered the room, I beg-

ged some candles might be brought. The nurse opposed it, saying, her mistress would scream at the light. Doctor Hunter thought also it would be wrong; as going in suddenly to her, with a candle, might have a bad effect, in her situation. I acquiesced, and went into her room with Doctor Hunter, in the dark. On my saying, "My dear Mrs. Baddeley, how are you?" She cried out, with a tone of despondency, "What! Is it my ever dear, dear Mrs. Steele, that speaks to me; or is it some voice that resembles her's? Pray let me see you." A pair of candles were brought, and she set up on her bed, and seemed to enjoy the light. When I approached her, she
stared

stared me in my face, as if wishing to recollect me; and as soon as I was known, she threw herself forwards, kissed me, and clung round my neck. She then told me of all her troubles, and begged, for God's sake, that I would stay with her that night. I did, nor would she suffer me to leave her the next day, but would go home with me. By the consent of Doctor Hunter, she was carefully wrapped up; I put her into a coach, and took her to my house; and, though I took her nurse with us, I chiefly nursed her myself, and in a few days got her so well, that she could endure the light, and sat up through the day. Mr. Sayer sent often to enquire how she did, but never at-

tempted to come under my roof. After a little time, she returned to her own house, and being in want of many little comforts, and necessaries for herself, and her unborn infant, I procured them for her, and made her a present of them. I went also every day to see her, continued with her as long as my avocations would permit; and sat up every night with her till she was brought to bed. She had a son, as I have mentioned before, and he was christened *Stephen Sayer*. The father, however, though he shewed a proper attention to Mrs. Baddeley in the name he gave the child, was not, in other respects, so attentive as he ought; for, I was obliged to find money for all her uses, and for the support of her house,

house, and paid Doctor Hunter the ten pounds I promised him. She got over this tolerably well, and, at the end of her month, only wanted air; to give her this, I took a furnished house for her, in my own name, in the King's-road, Chelsea, with a good garden; for which I paid forty pounds a year; and all this I did in opposition to my friends, who would not have done any thing for me, had they known it. Many of the Nobility, who used to call on Mrs. Baddeley, did me the honour, as soon as I was settled, to call upon me, in a friendly way; and their visits were no difference to me, but rather the contrary, as I thus kept up a genteel acquaintance, without expence. Mrs. Baddeley removed

moved to this house, and the air was of great benefit to her. Her child was nursed at home, but Mr. Sayer never saw her above twice a week, being too much taken up with his wife. He made her an allowance, but far from a generous one; as it would not enable her to hire a carriage occasionally, to go out in; and, as she wished for one, I hired a genteel job-coach and horses for her; told her, I would pay the expence of it for three months; lent her money for her necessary uses, and went from my house, near St. James's, every day to see her. Whilst at Chelsea, she recovered her health perfectly, and saw many of her friends; but they were new acquaintance, and such as I was a stranger

stranger to; they were of Mr. Sayer's introduction. One day when I called on her, I met there a young gentleman, who said he was just come from Bath, had rode his horse all night, and was exceedingly fatigued. He seemed very polite to Mrs. Baddeley, and paid her great attention. Mrs. Baddeley told me, this was one of her new friends, to whom she was under many obligations, during the time she was in Cleveland-row; saying, his purse had been always at her command, though she had not troubled him much; that he was a sensible, well-bred man, and she was happy in his acquaintance. When he was gone, she told me, his name was Bate, the Rev. Mr. Bate, Editor of the Morning

ing Post, now Bate Dudley; that he was a very good soul, and had done her many an act of kindness. "Indeed," said she, "whilst I was in Cleveland-row, he was the comfort of my life; as Mr. Sayer did not behave so well as he ought, and I had not you to comfort me. This gentleman visited me, as often as he could, and supplied Mr. Sayer's place. I own I love him, and was Mr. Sayer out of the question, I should be happy to live with him." From these declarations, I found out the intimacy they were upon. Whilst she was at Chelsea, and had a carriage to carry her abroad, she frequented many public places, and took her nurse with her as a companion.

At

At one of these places, she picked up a Mr. Petrie, a Scotch gentleman, who lived in the city. He fell in love with her, followed her home, and begged admittance, under a plea of having something material to inform her of. She asked him in; and, he professed a regard for her, hoped she was not engaged, told her he was possessed of a good fortune, would protect her for life, and to convince her, that his intentions were honourable, would settle a hundred pounds a year upon her, before he asked for any favour on her part; and begged she would appoint an attorney, that he might put it in force immediately. She thanked him for his good opinion, and the offer he made her, could

could not say she was wholly disengaged, as she admitted the visits of a gentleman, who indeed had not behaved as he should do, having made no settlement on her. He replied, that was cruel, and he did not deserve her favour. In short, she agreed to receive Mr. Petrie's visits; an attorney was applied to, who drew up the settlement, secured on some stock in the funds; it was signed and executed, and presented to her. She accepted it, but not liking the presenter, began to reflect on the inconvenience she should be subject to; that of receiving the visits of a man she disliked, at any time he pleased. Mr. Petrie proposed staying with her that night, and saying, as he sat by her,

her, how happy a man he was, having her wholly to himself; the word *wholly* so much hurt her, that she jumped up; said, she would never be *wholly* at the disposal of any man; and would have nothing to do either with him or his settlement, which she took out of her pocket, tore into twenty pieces, and threw into the fire. Mr. Petrie, who seemed to have a great regard for her, was *petrified* at this conduct and sudden change of mind, and could not conceive the reason of it; he would have done any thing to have prevailed with her, but it was to no purpose; she would hear nothing he had to say; would accept no settlement from him, was it ever so great; and was resolved

to see him no more; nor, do I believe she ever did. But she received other visitors, though she took care that I should never see them, for she was always alone when I called, and seemed wrapped up in her infant, and nursed it herself. She told me, she had received a visit from Sir Francis Molineux, and Mr. Damer. That Lord Melbourne had called on her once, she having wrote to him, and begged to see him; that, at this interview she represented her situation to him; but, that he said little to it, and left her, without giving her a shilling.

Having now done all for her that I promised, and by one way or another
having

having given her, and lent her, more than three hundred pounds, besides the sum of two thousand seven hundred and sixty pounds, which she owed me by bond, when we parted; I took my leave of her, being obliged to go out of town for some months, requesting she would take care of herself, and saying, I would see her again on my return. She cried a great deal, but I could not avoid going; however, I gave her twenty guineas, and begged she would write to me, and let me know how she went on.

I had scarce reached home, before her nurse came to me, out of breath, to tell me that Mr. Sayer was taken up, on a charge of high treason, and committed

to the Tower; and, that her mistress was in such agonies, that she did not know what to do with her; and begged I would return to her. I flew to Chelsea, and found her in such agonizing fear and dread, as would have moved a heart of stone. She knew well Mr. Sayer's principles; how many severe things he had said of the Royal Family; and feared, as I did, that death would be his portion. She was so wretched, that it was some time before I could pacify her; when she begged on her knees, that I would never divulge what I had heard him say. "I am afraid," said she, "that I shall be sent for; if I am, "I am determined not to go, and hope "you will not."

Sayer

Sayer at this time was forbidden the use of pen, ink, and paper; but he procured it nevertheless, through the means of the Warden of the Tower; and this man's wife conveyed many of his letters, where they were addressed. Mrs. Baddeley received several from him during his confinement. In these he entreated her not to be unhappy, for he should not long be imprisoned, as the charge against him could not detain him; and that he should be with her in a few days. In one of these letters, he said,
 " If I live, I will bring up my dear boy
 " from his infancy, to hate a traitor;
 " and will study to ground such senti-
 " ments in his heart, against the author
 " of my confinement, as he merits."

She afterwards shewed me this letter, and my reply was, "I see he will not be easy, till he gets a halter round his neck."

I now took my leave of her a second time, went out of town in the month of July, and did not return for ten months. In this time I had many letters from her, acquainting me with her situation, and telling me, that Mr. Sayer was a bankrupt, and did nothing for her; and that she was reduced to the necessity of finding a new friend, which she fortunately had met with. This friend, was Mr. Brereton, the player, who pretended to have a great love for her; but on the contrary, I soon after
heard

heard that she was ill, and very dangerously so, and that she owed her illness to him. Of course she soon left him, and took up with Mr. Webster, another player, of Drury-lane theatre, with whom she said, she was as happy as she could wish; that she would be industrious, and that, with their joint earnings, they should be able to live comfortably. She frequently wrote me word of his kindness and attention to her, and I believe they were happy in each other. During her continuance with Mr. Webster, she played constantly at Drury-lane, and had two children by him. In the summer, she went with him to Ireland, and performed there, where she lay in of her first child. The
time

time of their engagement at Drury-lane, drawing near, they were obliged to leave Ireland. She had then been brought to bed but three days, and yet determined to go to England with him; for, so fond was she of him, that she would not be left behind. Though she was not in a situation to be moved, she set off with him the fourth day after her delivery, and travelled with him all the way to London; by which means she caught cold, and was ill for a long time after, and her child died. She and Mr. Webster continued together for two or three years; when a severe fit of illness took him from her, and he died in her arms. This event made her very unhappy, and she was like a woman distracted. I was

at

at this time on a visit in the country; did not receive her letter, respecting the death of Mr. Webster; of course did not hear of it, till my return to town, which was some time after; when Mrs. Baddeley came to me in the utmost distress; said, she was with child by Mr. Webster, when he died, and, that the little he left her, his friends took from her, and at the same time, such things as belonged to her; and, that she had never been able to recover them; that, she lived in a small house in Pimlico, for which she paid twenty-five pounds a year; that she had not a month to go, and was destitute of every necessary both for herself and her infant; for, that necessity had obliged her to make away with

with every thing she had, of any value; that her great friends had forsaken her, and that she had scarcely common necessaries. At this time I was in business, and in partnership with a woman, who did not like Mrs. Baddeley; and, not having much money to command, I could not do for her as I wished; but, all that I could do, I did. I sent her three guineas every week, and a variety of cloaths, both for herself and her child. One day I went to see her, and took with me some new things I had purchased to make her comfortable; for, she had then been delivered of her infant, and was in a fine way to do well. I knocked at the door, and it was opened by a man genteelly dressed in black; a
black

black silk waistcoat and breeches, and a pair of black silk stockings, with his hair well-dressed. He asked me who I wished to see; and, when I said, Mrs. Baddeley; he replied, "Oh, I beg your pardon, I presume you are Mrs. Steele; please to walk up." He followed me, opened the chamber door, and said, to Mrs. Baddeley, "Here is Mrs. Steele, Ma'am, come to pay you a visit;" then bowed, retired, and shut the door.—Having enquired about her and her infant, I asked who that gentleman was, that ushered me up. She said, it was John. "What John?" cried I. "John," returned she, "that lived with Mr. Webster." "What does he do here?" was my next

next question. "I will tell you," said she; "but, as a long history hangs to this part of the business, which you will not like; don't enquire farther into it, for the present; I will reserve this story for you, till the next time I see you." I could not prevail on her to say more on the subject that day; she begged me to come the next, when I should be fully acquainted with the matter. I told her I would, if possible; and, on her saying, there were some few things which she wished to have; I bad her tell me all her little wants, and I would either bring them, or send them to her. The next day I went to her again, and took with me those articles she mentioned, and many others, which

I thought

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I thought would add to her comfort, and found her in better spirits than the day before. She then begged me to promise, on her relation of John's story, not to forsake her for her folly. I told her, that if her folly would have led me to it, I should have forsaken her long since; for that I knew her to be so eccentric a character, that nothing would surprize me. She said, her imprudence was always, on reflection, a greater punishment to her than she was able to bear or encounter with; but, that what she had done, was now too late to recall, and therefore idle to repine at. "On the death of poor Webster," continued she, "whom I dearly loved, I thought I should have gone

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“distracted. John was his favourite
“servant; and, when his master was
“dead, he took such a share in my affliction,
“that I could not but value him;
“he staid in the room with me, stood
“by me, watched me, and paid me
“more attention than I can describe;
“and, when he took his wages, felt for
“my distressed situation, and laid it all
“out for my use. Seeing myself neglected
“by all mankind, and having
“with me a relation, a woman of little
“character, who drowned her own
“reflections by drinking brandy; she
“gave me so much of the same, as to
“get into my head.” Now, to do
Mrs. Baddeley justice, I must say,
drinking was a failing she was never
adicted

dicted to; for, whilst we lived together, no one was more temperate; and, I can declare, with truth, that I never saw her drink three glasses of wine at dinner or supper, in my life, nor did she ever taste a dram. But this woman, she said, prevailed on her to take a large glass of brandy, which, together with her grief, so overcame her; that she was put to bed senseless; and how it happened she could not tell, but in the morning she found John by her side. She owned, that his tender behaviour to her had won her; that she did not resent his conduct, and that from that day to this, he and she had lived together as man and wife. She took some pains to reconcile me to this event; said John was

to the present Royal Family, as his letter, &c. that will be introduced in the course of this work, will amply shew; also some account of his commitment to the Tower, where he was forbidden the use of pen, ink, and paper, and the manner in which he was furnished with the same, and his mode of conveying his letters where he pleased. This I, myself, made Lord North acquainted with, at the time Mr. Lawrence was in the Tower, under the same prohibitions; lest he should be accommodated with those materials, to the injury of the state; and I received his Lordship's thanks on the occasion.

Mrs. Baddeley being now detached from any favourite, or any obligatory connexion,

connexion, I thought it a good time to advise her to live by her own industry, and follow her profession; but she would not listen to it: the stage she detested, and would sooner die, she said, than return to it again; but, if I would go abroad with her, she would try her fortune in a strange country. I begged to know on what plan she meant to proceed; she replied, she would get together what money she could, and go to the East-Indies; where probably some rich man might take a fancy to her, and marry her; but, that till I was paid every shilling that was due to me, she would give her hand to no man. She said, she was tired of this country, and her wish was to leave it; for, as her father and mother were dead, every at-

achment to her native place was broken. Whilst her mother lived, she allowed her, as I have before observed, three guineas a week, and Mrs. Snow deserved it at her hands; for, she was a good christian, a fond parent, and a sincere friend. In answer to her plan of going abroad, I urged a great deal on it's uncertainty; that had we money enough to trade on, and she was disposed to follow some occupation, it might require a consideration; but that, in the present state of things, it was absurd to bestow a thought on it: that I had a family to think of; and though, from my affection to her, I had a great deal neglected them, yet, whilst I was in England, I could occasionally see them, and do something for them; but that if there

could

could be any channel of certainty proposed, I would not refuse going to the East-Indies with her, or to any other part of the globe. "Well then," returned she, "let us share our fate together, and stay where we are. As to the men, I have been deceived by them, and will endeavour to be even with them, some way or other." I then urged again a less expensive establishment, and a more confined way of living. This she would not hear of; for, said she, "Lessen my consequence, and it is all over with me. I will pursue my pleasures, and look out for some new friend." This I observed was still going on wrong. "No," replied she, "it cannot be wrong, where it has a good end in view. Do you think, my

“ my dear Steele, I am totally void of
“ feeling? Can I obliterate from my
“ remembrance, and from my heart,
“ what you have done for me, and how
“ much I am bound in justice, both to
“ you and your’s?” I intreated her, for
the present, to think only for herself, and
not to suffer me or mine to give her
any pain; that I could go into some way
of business, that would maintain both
her and me comfortably, and I had no
objections to make the attempt; that
whatever I embarked in, should be in
my name, and she should live like a
gentlewoman; that if it was necessary, I
would work night and day for her, and
she should enjoy half the profits of my
industry: she said, she would sooner do
this, than go on the stage any more;
but,

but that it would be a dreadful sound to her, to hear it said, "Poor Baddeley is "at last fallen from all her pomp and "splendor into a shop!" I told her my plan was not a mean one; but, as we had many friends to open some warehouse, on a respectable footing, and that she need not appear in it; and that I was persuaded, she would experience more real happiness in one month, in this honest way of getting a living, than in all the splendor she had enjoyed. She promised to consider of it, and said, it was time enough to do this, when all other resources failed; she would first try whether some more eligible thing would not occur. I gave her to understand, that I was very serious in the plan I proposed, and wished it from my soul; for, that

that I was heartily tired of her present way of life, and she ought to be so too. "True," replied she, "but yet I cannot consent to give up all my pleasures in the prime of my life; I must enjoy their sweets a little longer." Then from a cast of despondency, she rose into an uncommon flow of spirits, said, she would dress for the opera, and whilst the hair-dresser was fetching, she would sing me a song, and warbled forth the following.

Alas! 'Tis in vain my distress to dissemble!

I wish for to go, yet in going I tremble,

No friend to support me, no pilot but you.

No friend, &c.

Whilst singing this song, she took me in her arms, hung round my neck, and cried;

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cried; and I sympathized with her, and told her, if she would confide in me, for her pilot, I would soon steer her into a safe harbour, in which she might lay snug and secure from the dangers of a stormy world. The hair-dresser came, and put an end to our conversation. This kind of gentry, having access to the ladies, frequently hear things in one house, which they carry to another. Ladies are too apt to converse with these fellows, and ask questions; and, for every piece of intelligence they communicate, they are rewarded with news in return; so, that many women are as much diverted with their slander, as embellished by their art. This hair-dresser dressed many at the theatre, and used to entertain us with the scandal
of

of the green-room. "There was a
" strange piece of work," said he, "la-
" dies, at the play-house, last night,
" whilst I was dressing Mrs. Abington.
" Mrs. Scott, the wife of Lord Delo-
" raine's brother, fell into fits, because
" Mr. Brereton took more than uncom-
" mon notice of Miss Hopkins," (to
whom he is since married) "and no-
" thing could recover the dying nymph,
" but the sweet odour of her Florizel's
" breath, and a gill glass of brandy."
Whilst we were laughing at this story,
a man came to speak to Mrs. Badde-
ley, and said he must see her; it was in
vain, therefore, to deny her, for he had
business of some consequence to impart.
I went down to the man, who addressed
me with, "I have a writ against you,
" Madam,

"Madam, for a debt to a linen-dra-
 "per." I desired to see the writ, and
 saw it was against Mrs. Baddeley.—
 "Why did not the man send me his
 "bill?" said I. "That, Madam," re-
 plied he, "is *your* look-out, not *mine*.
 "Come, you must go with me; I have
 "a coach for you, and my men are in
 "waiting." "If I pay you the money,"
 said I, "have you any further demand?"
 "Paying the money," returned he,
 "will not do, there are three actions
 "more out against you, and you must
 "go with me." Hearing this, I thought
 it best, in order to get him out of the
 house, to go with him. Accordingly I
 called for my cloak and bonnet, and
 ordered my maid to bring them, who I
 knew would understand me. "Tell

"my daughter," said I, "I am gone
"to settle a little matter, for which I
"am arrested; that, I am going to
"Mr. P's. and shall be back in two
"hours." When I was in the coach,
I requested the officer to send away his
man, and to take me to Mr. P. which,
with the promise of a guinea, I prevail-
ed on him to do. We found him at
home; I winked at him, and said,
"This man, Sir, has arrested me for a
"debt of fifty pounds, due to a linen-
"draper, in Fleet-street; and tells me,
"there are three writs more against me,
"and that I must go to his house." He
asked the officer at whose suit those three
writs were; but, he could not inform
him; for he believed it was a dead set
against Mrs. Baddeley, and asked Mr. P.

how

how he meant to act. "I shall bail
 " them all," said he. " You cannot,"
 replied the officer, " till I know the
 " amount of the actions. Give me the
 " name of the bail, and come to my
 " house, where you will find the lady,
 " and I will then search the office."

Mr. P. begged him to leave me with his
 wife, but he furlily refused, saying, he had
 business at home, and must go, and that
 I must go with him; " And don't think,"
 addressing himself to Mr. P. " that you
 " will bail it so easily, for I tell you
 " again, it is a *dead set*: therefore,
 " Madam," added he to me, " you
 " must make yourself happy at my
 " house. It is three weeks to term, and
 " in that time you may look about
 " you." I asked him, what he meant

by a *dead set*? He told me, that by that term, he meant, that all my creditors were determined to come upon me, and as soon as he had me in custody; that he learned this from the linen-draper, who said, the nobility, when once he had got hold of me, would pay like wild-fire, and, that he should be well rewarded for his pains; so that I need not be afraid of a jail. "I take many hundreds," said he, "in the course of my business, and few go to jail; for I always stand their friend, and will your's; for, as soon as you are at my house, I will go round among your creditors, and see if I cannot make matters up."—"Why,"—said Mr. P "what a pretty rascal you are! After you have got

" an

" an unhappy person in your custody;
 " under a pretence of making matters
 " up, you go round among his credi-
 " tors, and seek for fresh detainers.—
 " There is the guinea the lady promised
 " you, but get out of my house this
 " moment, or I'll play the devil with
 " you; for you have no business with
 " this lady, and she shall not go with
 " you." The fellow replied, d—n
 the guinea, he did not value it; if the
 lady would not go with good will, he
 would make her go. I then told him,
 my name was not *Baddeley*, but *Steele*;
 that Mrs. Baddeley was in Ireland, and
 that I would not go with him. His an-
 swer was, "None of your geers, Ma-
 " dam; I am not to be humbugged,
 " and must be more satisfied, before I

"let you go." I asked him what satisfaction he wished for. He said, to go with him to the plaintiff, and if he was content to let me go, he would have no objections; but, that he would not release me on any other terms. Mr. P. said, "If you will not believe me, friend, on the word of a man of honour, you must take the consequences; and, if you are obstinate, this affair will end in your ruin; for, before you shall take her away, you shall have my life. Mrs. Steele came with you, in order to learn what writs you had out against Mrs. Baddeley. Mrs. Steele is as well known in this street as I am; go to Dr. Fordyce's, and bring any one of the family here, and you will soon be convinced." Whilst

we

we were talking, Sir John Eliot passed by; I called him in, and the first words he said, were, "My dear Mrs. Steele; "how do you do? Is Mrs. Baddeley "returned from Ireland?" He asked me a few more questions, said he was in haste, wished me a good morning, and took his leave. When he was gone, the officer said, "Now, Madam, "I am convinced; I am sensible of "my mistake, and beg your pardon: "had you told me your name was not "Baddeley, when I was at your house, "it would have saved yourself a great "deal of trouble, and me much time; "for loss of time is to me an injury. "You may rely on what I say, that "there is a plot against Mrs. Baddeley, "and happy for her that she is in Ire-
land."

“land.” We let him go off, and took a coach home, fearful any other writ might be served upon her. In our way, Mr. P. said, “Some of her creditors, who arrested me, are now going to do the same by her, and therefore, for her safety, it is necessary that you should take her, for a few days, out of town.” I told him, I could take her to my house near Henley, and say we were going to Portsmouth. He advised this measure, and said, as soon as his friend, in the Sheriff’s-office, let him know what writs were out against her, he would endeavour to settle them. When we reached home, we ordered the door not to be opened to any one; but, to answer persons, who knocked, from the area. Mrs. Baddeley was so terrified at

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what we told her, and at the apprehension of future writs, that she was eager to go away. Mr. P. said, if she was out of town, a few days might settle every thing. It was agreed, that she should go in a hackney-coach to the New Inn, Westminster-bridge, where we should take a post-chaise for Henley. Mr. P. fetched the coach himself, that he might see no person was about; we all got into it, and by way of blind, ordered the coachman to drive to Marybone, for our servants knew nothing of the plan. As soon as he got into Bond-street, he ordered the man to drive to Westminster-bridge. Mr. P. now left us, but advised me not to return for a day or two, that it might not be suspected, that Mrs. Baddeley was near London,

London, lest they should trace her out; and said he would go back to my house and tell my servants that I should not be home that night. It was eight at night when we left London, yet we reached my house at Henley at one in the morning, though it was thirty-five miles from town. Here we found Mr. Gill, who was constantly backwards and forwards between that and Oxford, enquiring for letters, and bringing others; for, though I have not mentioned his name lately, he was like a mad-man about her, and had been answered and kept easy by letters, messages, and other means; for she had not as yet declared her intention not to marry him, determining to wean him from the thoughts of it by degrees. He was in bed and asleep, when

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we

we arrived, and did not hear us; and, when he waked in the morning, and was informed of Mrs. Baddeley's being there, he was in transports of joy. She was happy to see him, and this accidental interview renewed in her mind, what she had almost forgotten; for she had not even mentioned his name for a length of time. She observed to me, that he looked as handsome as an angel. I was sorry for this, as from one evil, we fell into another. No two on earth seemed more happy that day, than did he and she. He did not upbraid her with any neglect, but all was right and well with him. I staid the next night with her, and ordered her to act prudently with Mr. Gill, in my absence. She assured me she would; but said, his being there would

would be a great comfort, when I was gone. In the morning, I set off on my return, and when I got home, was told the man who had been with me two days before, (this was the bailiff) had been there, and said, he must see Mrs. Baddeley, and absolutely ran all over the house, and behaved very impudently. I told my servants, it was of little consequence, and did not wish to hear more about him; for, that he had no business there. I then said, I would now settle with them. They were panic-struck at this, and hoped I was not going to discharge them. I told them, I meant no such thing; but, as I owed them three months wages, I chose to pay them: for, it is always prudent not to be in their debt, and to keep

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them at a proper distance. This is the only way to command respect. I sent for Mr. P. and consulted with him. He told me, he had searched the office, and found there were three writs out, besides the linen-draper's, and it was the best way now to bail them, and thus gain time to pay them. I requested him to do it, and he promised me he would as soon as possible. He recommended it, that Mrs. Baddeley should write to some of her friends, and try if she could not get some money. I said, she might, if she would; but I knew she had such a spirit, that it would be some trouble to persuade her to it. He said, Lord Melbourne was not a man of honour, to act as he did; and, as to Lord Coleraine, he ought to be post-

ed. I told him, I should want money in a few days, to which he replied, I might have some now, if I pleased, for he had fifty pounds about him, and it was at my command, and more if I would have it. I took the fifty pounds, and said, that would answer all my present purposes. Whilst we were in conversation, the officer came again, and I begged Mr. P. to see him with me, that we might hear what he had to say. The man was admitted, and said, he wanted to see Mrs. Baddeley. "For shame," said Mr. P. to him, "how could you run over the house as you did the other day? Mrs. Baddeley is not here, and if she had been, you ought not to have done as you did." He replied, that if he could not see Mrs. Baddeley,

Baddeley, he was authorized, by the plaintiff, to tell Mrs. Steele; that if she would give him her note for the amount of the debt and cash at one month, he would drop the action against Mrs. Baddeley. "No," said Mr. P. without waiting for my answer, "if he will take her note at two months, I dare say she will give it, but not else." "And why my note," said I, "as Mrs. Baddeley, at that time, will pay it herself?" The plaintiff, he returned, would not be satisfied, unless I joined in the note, as a further security. "How- ever," added he, "if you will give me two guineas, I will take your single note at two months, and give Mrs. Baddeley a discharge." I agreed to this, and gave him my note, and

away he went. Mr. P. said, this was better than bailing the action, as it was attended with less trouble and less expence; "but," continued he, "you must prepare to pay it when due. Others of your creditors would be glad to settle their demands in the same way; but I would not advise you to give your notes to any, but those whom I shall point out; for such acts will involve you, and you are hurt enough already."

When Mr. P. was gone, I sat down to consider who were Mrs. Baddeley's friends, and from whom she was most likely to get money, on an application; but could not tell who to fix on, as few men will bestow their money without a reward

reward in view; I gave up the thought, therefore, till I could see her. I now put up a few things for Mrs. Baddeley, ordered the phaeton, set off at four o'clock that afternoon for Oxfordshire, and reached my house at eight. I told her what I had done, and of the fifty pounds I had received, made her put twenty pounds in her pocket, lest if she should be traced out, she might be ill used for want of money to bribe the officers. My design was to return the next morning, but she said, I must not take her with me, till all things were settled. She added, that she was now undone, for that she was more in love with Mr. Gill, than ever; that he was so good, and so attentive to her, that she had not a wish, but it was gratified

before she could well name it; but bad me not be unhappy, for she should do nothing imprudent. I set off for town again, at five in the morning, and was in Grafton-street at nine. Whilst I was at breakfast, a letter came for Mrs. Baddeley, from a person unknown, requesting the favour of being admitted to drink tea with her; and it should be to her benefit, as he flattered himself his rank and situation in life, would not lessen him in her estimation. I conceived this to be the scheme of some Sheriff's officer, therefore ordered the man in, and told him he might take the letter back, from whence he brought it. The man said he brought it from a gentleman, at a coffee-house, whom he believed to be a Lord, though he did not know

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know him. The manner and appearance of the fellow convinced me I was right in my conjectures; I therefore sealed the letter, and returned it to him, saying, we never received such kind of letters. He took it and went away, and I ordered my man secretly to follow him. He traced him to an ale-house, where, after staying some time, he saw him come out with Phillips, the officer. This scheme did not avail him, as I was too much on my guard; it only shews us the arts these men make use of, to accomplish their ends.

Mr. P. soon after came, and said, he had not, as yet, bailed the actions; as he expected some money in a few days, and thought it best to pay the debt, particularly

cularly as it would save Mrs. Baddeley some pounds. He told me that her creditors behaved to him most cruelly, and put him to all the expence they could.

Mr. Hobart paid me a visit the same day, and said that Lord Coleraine was after a Mrs. Garnier, a very handsome woman, and much admired by the *bon ton*. Lord Albermarle had noticed her till his death, and left her, by all accounts, as a gentleman should do, in a good situation, for she always appeared in a genteel line, and was much the gentlewoman in her manner and deportment.

Presently came Lord Lyttleton, to enquire when Mrs. Baddeley would be in

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town, and to tell me that his poor friend Johnson was so much in love with her, that he was worn to a skeleton, and lay at the point of death. "Nay," added his Lordship, "by his raving, as he does at times, and repeating her name so often, I think he must be out of his mind; indeed I am very sorry for him, as he is a good fellow, and has one of the best of hearts." On my asking who he was; his Lordship said, he was an Irish gentleman, and a man of some family and fortune; that he was then at Bath, and he feared would never return; that he got his illness by cold, in parading our street night and day; which he did for a long time, before Mrs. Baddeley went to Ireland, and for some time after, not knowing she was from home; and.

and when he heard she was gone, he watched me for a long time after, hoping by that means to find her out. I remember well, that a person followed me about, when I was from home, but conceived it to be one of Lord Coleraine's spys. Lord Lyttleton, in taking leave, begged I would oblige him so far as to let him know when Mrs. Baddeley returned, which I promised.

His Lordship's visit was followed by one from Mr. King, the mercer, and, who was full of his kind enquiries and invitations to King-street, saying, he could shew us some very beautiful silks. He then began about Mr. P. saying, he fought him at law, and it was a pity Mrs. Baddeley had put her affairs into his

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his hands. I remonstrated with him on the subject, laid the fault upon him, and said, Mr. P. would have paid him long since, if Mrs. Baddeley had enabled him; persecuting him therefore, was persecuting her. Had he known this he said, he would not have proceeded against Mr. P. and was willing to give him further time. He then asked some questions respecting Lord Melbourne, but finding me not disposed to answer him, dropped the subject. I could not divine the cause of this visit from Mr. King; indeed I began to suspect every body.

Mr. Lara, the Jew, having taken one of Mr. P's. notes, given on Mrs. Baddeley's account, and having also a letter
of

of attorney from her creditors, to sue out a writ against her; I thought it advisable to see him, and try what I could do with him. This was for a debt of two hundred and ten pounds, for diamonds, not worth half the money, which she purchased one day through a whim, without having any occasion for them. I saw this man, and talked him into a compliance to wait two months, by taking a fresh note from me and Mr. P. jointly: to this Mr. P. consented, and thus two of the writs, out of four, were compromised for a time. I wished Mr. P. to let me try what I could do with the other two; but he advised me by no means to think of it, as it would be involving myself, and might probably bring on my ruin. I told him, that
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though my ruin was certain to ensue, I would do it, if I thought it would relieve Mrs. Baddeley; nay, that my love for her was so great, that I would cheerfully risk my life, in the same cause. He said it was a strange infatuation, which he did not know how to account for; that rash as it was, he could not but commend me; as he was persuaded, it must arise from affection only; but that, though it militated against him, he should not urge me to it; nay, he begged I would not join him in any securities, as he foresaw what might be the consequence, and he had my welfare too much at heart, to wish it. "Indeed," continued he, "for your sake, I wish I had never seen Mrs. Baddeley; for I fear she will be my

VOL. V. S "ruin,

“ruin, and it would add to my unhappiness, to have you involved with me.” I thanked him for his good wishes, but hoped he would have no reason to repent of what he had done for her; and that he must excuse me in saying, that was I certain a jail would be my portion for life, I would submit to it, provided I could extricate her from the difficulties she was then in; and I would not rest till I saw her out of them.” “I do not wish,” said I, “to draw you, or any other person into trouble on her account, and you are sensible I have put myself to inconveniencies to act justly by you.”

I told Mr. P. I meant to see her as the next day, and wished I could with

safety

safety bring her back with me. He by no means advised this, till the other writs were settled, but said, if I would permit him, he would accompany me. This did not please me, though I knew not how to avoid it. I long saw through his conduct, and perceived he wished for an opportunity to talk to me, on a subject I was unwilling to hear, and which, by a variety of means, I had hitherto contrived to prevent; though, at times, he had been lavish in his compliments, and it was with difficulty I could restrain him. I had too much on my mind to attend to him, or any other man, and prudence enough to guard against words I ought not to hear. I had daily before my eyes, a lesson dearly bought and paid for; and let the fate of

Mrs. Baddeley be a lesson to all young minds, not to stray from the paths of virtue ; for, with all the beauty she possessed, with all the splendor she enjoyed, and all the admiration she met with, she fell at last a sacrifice, and lived to be unnoticed, by those who once adored her. In short, let them learn from the heroine of these memoirs, to be wary and circumspect, and stand upon their guard against the seduction of men.

I Though Mr. P. wished to accompany me into Oxfordshire, under a pretext of seeing Mrs. Baddeley, I contrived to go there alone, and that he should follow me the day after; and, I rode there on horse-back, that he might have no opportunity of returning with me to town.

town. When I told Mrs. Baddeley, that Mr. P. would be with her the next day, she said, she would contrive to send Mr. Gill off, that they might not meet. She brought this about very well. Mr. Gill went to Oxford, and Mr. P. took his place for one day. Mrs. Baddeley told him, she wished to be in London; but, rather than distress him, she would stay a month where she was. —He seemed pleased with this, and said, it would give him time; his money would then come round, and he should be able to settle with her creditors better; little thinking she had a favourite there to detain her. Mrs. Baddeley saw, as well as I did, the end of all Mr. P's. civility and kindness, and was unhappy I had put myself so much in

his power, as to join him in any securities. Though she was sure the business would terminate in a quarrel between him and me, she wished me, for her sake, to carry on matters with him as smooth as I could, and steer off the breach as long as possible. I told her, I was prepared for any thing he might say to me, and would manage him so, as not to make him my enemy. "My fears," said I, "are more for you than myself, lest you should act imprudently with "Mr. Gill." She frankly confessed, that she weakly fell from one error to another, and that she loved him too much to be happy out of his sight. That marry him she could not, but was as happy with him then, as if she had been married: in short, she gave me

to understand, that had she been his wife, she could not have admitted him to greater freedoms. I grew angry with her, but it answered no purpose. "If there is any sin in it," said she, "I glory in it, and must sin on, and love my Joseph," (for this was his christian name.) It was now too late to call back her imprudence, and I found it more to her interest to get her away; but, she raved about him, said it was heaven to be in his company, and hell without him; that she must end her days with him, and the like.

The next morning, Mr. P. urged me to return with him in his post-chaise, which I could not avoid doing; and, I got home, without hearing any thing I disliked.

disliked. He made an attempt three or four times in the journey, but I always contrived to evade the subject.

On my return, I found Lord Harrington had called, and also Mr. Damer, Sir Thomas Mills, Mr. Mayne the banker, and some other gentleman, whom my maid did not know. I fear I shall tire my reader's patience, by dwelling on the subject of Mr. P.; but, it is indispensably necessary, to shew him how the matter ended with him; must, therefore, call upon his candor on this relation, as it will not be long before the mystery opens; and the consequence, though it may give pain to a feeling mind, will be an instructive lesson to the world, and teach the incautious, not

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On my saying, that I could not be
happy without Mrs. Baddeley, and ex-
pressing a wish to get her home imme-
diately, Mr. P. settled the other action
out against her, the next day; brought
me the papers to convince me of it, and
said, she might now return when she
pleased. These papers were only such
as allowed more time, for the debts
were not paid; the writs, however,
against her were discharged. He now
took an opportunity to say, he had
much pain at heart. I replied, "I have
"pains there too, which nothing but
"money can relieve." He told me,
his were of a different kind, that they
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proceeded from love, and love of me; and if, after all he had done for Mrs. Baddeley, (which, from the first, he did to oblige me, and convince me of his regard) I did not promise him a return of such affection, she might get who she would to pay him, for he would have done with her, and give himself no more trouble about her. My reply was not such as he was pleased with; yet, as things were, I was far from uncivil, and said all I could to moderate his passions; told him, I did not reject his suit from dislike, but, that my situation in life put a negative on it; and, I flattered myself, no behaviour of mine could give him, or any one, cause to suppose he might succeed with me in his wishes. In short, to en-

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ter into all the conversation that passed between us on this head, as it relates not to the history of Mrs. Baddeley's life, would be deviating from the subject; let it suffice to say, that his determination was, to give her up, and suffer her to be torn to pieces, unless I complied. Dreading all this, I made use of deception, told him, that persons in my circumstances ought to weigh the matter well, before they determined. He replied, he would give me any time, in reason, to consider of it, so as I thought proper to afford him any hopes. By this mode of acting, I gained time, but not without the mortification, at times, of being obliged to listen to his fulsome addresses. To avoid it as much as possible, I set off to fetch Mrs. Baddeley

deley home, which I effected, with great reluctance on her part, and a promise on mine, that she should go every week to see Mr. Gill. She was, however, happy on her return to Grafton-street; and, as there was to be a masked ball, at the Pantheon, the week following, we began to think of our dresses. I told her, that what she had prophesied of Mr. P. had come to pass, and begged, that whenever he came, she would make a point of not leaving us together. She did this for some days, and it freed me from his nonsense; but, he soon saw into this, and came so often, as to know every thing we did; when out, when at home, what we eat, and what we drank.—Finding no opportunity to talk to me alone, he

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became very pressing for money, and told Mrs. Baddeley, that, if she and I would give him a bond, for seven hundred pounds, payable in one year; he should, by endorsing it, be able to borrow the money upon it, at a small premium, of a friend of his, a Jew in the city. She agreed to this; but I told him I did not like bonds, they were things too serious to trifle with; for, that I had known a family ruined, by incautiously signing one; and wished he would not urge either of us to execute it. Mrs. Baddeley said, if I would not, she would. Mr. P. upbraided me much on my unwillingness, thus to serve him and Mrs. Baddeley, forgetting the advice he had but a little time before given me, on this subject. Knowing

that I was to go out that afternoon, to see one of my children, that was ill at school, he invited himself to tea with Mrs. Baddeley, and brought a bond with him, which she executed in my absence; and, on my return, begged me, in the most affectionate language, to oblige her by signing it also; saying, she had read the bond and signed it. "Have *you* read it?" said I,—“Then I will read it too.” “Good God,” replied she, “is not my reading it sufficient? Sure, you would not doubt Mr. P’s. veracity, and mine!”—This was sufficient: I had plunged into every thing through love to her, and it was only plunging deeper. I took the pen and signed it. He then said, he should receive the money in a week, and Mrs.

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Baddeley might rely on it, that he would bring her the two hundred pounds she wanted. At this time, Mr. P. had given his securities for her, to the amount of two thousand pounds; seven hundred pounds, therefore, was but about a third of it.

When he was gone, I asked her, seriously, whether she had read the bond: she assured me she had, and it was for seven hundred pounds only, and, that as he had been so disappointed in his wishes, respecting me, and she was so much in his debt, she and I could do no less than we had, to keep him in good humour. "We had a great deal of talk," added she, "about you; he has been telling me, how much he is in love

"with you, and how unhappy you have
 "made him. I told him, I was sorry
 "for it; and, asked him, why he did
 "not fall in love with me? He smil-
 "ed, and said he *did* love me, but not
 "so much as you; and, that no man
 "could help his feelings. If he loved
 "me," added she, "I would gratify
 "him in any thing; for I would do all
 "in my power to serve him and oblige
 "him, and that from a sense of grati-
 "tude." Here Mrs. Baddeley pleased
 me less than ever; for she became an
 advocate for him, urging me to counte-
 nance him, saying, I should thus secure
 him for life, a friend to both of us;
 that, he was far from a disagreeable
 man, and that he was a person *she* could
 love. I grew warm upon this occasion;

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told her what I had done to shew my affection for her, of course it was not to be disputed; that, I had given her my little fortune, which I had for years worked for, and did not repine; that, I had also forsaken my husband, neglected my family, and given her myself, and would now give up my life, if necessary, to serve her; but, to part with my honour, which was dearer to me than life, I would not consent to. I was so angry with her, that I cried. She then begged my pardon, said, she did it merely to try me, and was only in joke. This I am perswaded was not the case, there was a little selfishness at bottom that might arise from fear, or some other cause; as no part of her life gave

me any reason to suppose she wished me to follow her example.

I must now inform my reader, that Mrs. Baddeley, having some doubts that her coach and horses would, by some means or other, be taken from her, and, being a married woman, could bring no action to recover them; did, some months before this, beg Mr. P. to draw up a receipt for her to sign, making over the carriage and horses to him, as if he had purchased them. He drew up such a paper, and she signed it; and, as I thought it then a matter of little consequence, I did not oppose it. She had made up a very handsome masquerade dress, but the diamonds were

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were wanting to complete it; these I consented to her having, and the following articles were hired for her, by me;

Of Mr. Drury, jeweller, in the Strand—a pair of brilliant ear-rings.

Of Mr. Bellas, Pall-Mall—a large diamond bow and pins.

Of Mr. Dingwell, St. James's-street—three diamond necklaces.

For her design was to put the three necklaces together, and make a belt of them, from her shoulder to her waste, with the bow at the end. She said, that by wearing these ornaments, she should still preserve her credit with the public, and those to whom she was indebted; and, that as many of her creditors

ditors would be at the masquerade, if they saw she had still some property, they would not be so apt to distress her. This consideration led me to acquiesce in the expence, for she was to pay two and a half per cent. for the use of them for that night; and the value of them was some thousands. On the day of this masquerade, when her hair was dressed, and I was under the hands of the hair-dresser, we heard a noise in the house I had never heard before. I ran to the stairs-head, and found ten men running up. One of them pushed by me, and ran to Mrs. Baddeley, the rest followed, and, for my life, I could not conceive what they wanted. Poor Baddeley was so terrified, that she fainted. The fellows did not declare their business,

business, but told her, they would not use her ill. On my asking who they were, the one that first pushed me, and ran by me, said, he was a Sheriff's officer, and that he did arrest Mrs. Baddeley. "At whose suit?" said I, "— I will bail it." He said, the action was notailable, of course she must go with him; that her coach would be presently at the door, and she must go to his house in Southampton-street, near Chancery-lane. Mrs. Baddeley cried so much, and screamed, that I could not read the writ, though the fellow held it out. At last, however, I found it to be an execution against her, for one thousand six hundred pounds, and the same against my goods for four hundred pounds, at the suit of Mr. P. on a bond and

and judgment, with a warrant of attorney, signed by us both to him, which bond, instead of seven hundred pounds, and payable in a year, as we supposed, was made out, or altered for two thousand pounds, and no time allowed. I asked her, when she was a little pacified, if she read it before she signed it, and she declared she did; though afterwards I found she had not. "Read it or not," said the officer to her, "it is the same, you must now pay it to me;" and if I did not pay the four hundred pounds before the term, my goods would be sold. In this scuffle, I had recollection enough to take up the diamonds, and put them into my pocket, meaning to return them the next day; but, in my confusion, I left one of the necklaces behind,

behind, which I never heard of afterwards, and was obliged to pay Mr. Dingwell three hundred and fifty pounds for, within these two years. When her coach came, I said I would go with her. "Will,"—said the officer, "you *must*;" "for I have a writ also against *you*, for forty-nine pounds. However, Madam," said he, "I will not oblige *you* to go, but will wait on you at some other time."—I was so angry, that I could not thank the fellow, for his intended civility; but, told him, he might go to the devil, and tell his employer, Mr. P. that I would end him for this piece of villainy. The bailiff, replied, "He has done this, Madam, only to try Mrs. Baddeley's friends, who are able to pay the money, and, who

“who he supposes, will, in the course
 “of a very few days; and though his
 “want of money has obliged him to
 “this step, it will be for Mrs. Badde-
 “ley’s good in the end.”

END OF THE FIFTH VOLUME.



